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THE

TACTIC OF THE BRITISH ARMY

REDUCED TO DETAIL:

WITH

REFLECTIONS ON THE SCIENCE AND PRINCIPLES OF WAR;

UNITING, IN ONE VIEW,

THE EVOLUTIONS OF THE BATTALION, BRIGADE, AND LINE,

AND POINTING OUT

THEIR COMBINATIONS WITH EACH OTHER, AND USES ON ACTUAL SERVICE.

ILLUSTRATED WITH FIFTY-NINE COPPER PLATES.

THE SECOND EDITION.

BY JAMES CUNINGHAME,

MAJOR OF INFANTRY IN THE SERVICE OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY.

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PREFACE.

AT a period of the world when the Science of War has more than ever become intereſting to our Country, any attempt to render the Tactic of the Britiſh Army more eaſily underſtood, has, at leaſt, a laudable object in view: ſhould this Treatiſe be conſidered in ſome degree to have attained that object, by ſuch Military Individuals as may look into the Contents, it will be extremely gratifying to the Writer, and peculiarly ſo if thus found uſeful by any of the Indian Army, with whom the Author long ſerved; for whoſe profeſſional talents he has the higheſt reſpect; and among whom he gathered what Field Knowledge he can lay claim to as a Soldier. It has been drawn up while acting as Major of Brigade to the Three Regiments of Royal Eaſt India Volunteers; and as it was originally undertaken in the hope of being uſeful to theſe Corps, is, therefore, reſpectfully dedicated to their Commander The Right Honorable VISCOUNT MELVILLE, and to the COURT OF DIRECTORS OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY;—to the one, as the Father of Volunteer Exertion; to the other, as having largely promoted this ſyſtem of national defence, which now gives ſecurity to our fire-ſides, and vigour to the Empire.

JAMES CUNINGHAME,

MAJOR OF INFANTRY IN THE EAST INDIA COMPANY'S SERVICE.

Note.—Since the publication of this Edition it has been directed from Head Quarters, that the Brigadier, in Reviews, ſhall poſt himſelf on the Right of his Brigade, unleſs the Reviewing General approaches by the Left, in which caſe he will ſhift to that Flank. See page 4 of this work.

In page 20, *after* "If the Line conſiſted of twenty more Battalions, they would all enter the Alignment in the ſame way that the Second Battalion does," *add* "unleſs *particularly* ordered to enter at their *head* or *intermediate* points." For a detail of this latter mode ſee Eighth Manœuvre. If ordered to enter at intermediate points, they will wheel their leading Diviſions into the Alignment at ſuch points, and file their rear ones.

In page 28, *for* "and oppoſe with Rear Ranks in Front," *read* "and oppoſe with inverted Diviſions."

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SECOND

TACTIC OF THE LINE REDUCED TO DETAIL,

IN STRICT CONFORMITY TO THE PRINCIPLES LAID DOWN IN

HIS MAJESTY's MILITARY REGULATIONS.

WHATEVER may be the merits or demerits of this Work, the Author of it may plead, that he has not trodden in the footſteps of others. Many as are the individuals who have written, in detail, on the diſcipline of the ſingle Battalion, each endeavouring to place it in a clearer view than the other; no one has before ſaid any thing on the preſent Tactic of the Line, which, being more complex, ſtands in greater need of illuſtration, and, as infinitely leſs defined in His Majeſty's Regulations, requires the more to be explained.

When ſeveral regiments or battalions exerciſe together, they become a line of troops, and enter into the Tactic of the Line—Nineteen* Manœuvres are laid down in the Regulations, as generally to be practiſed by the ſingle Battalion; the other formations required of it are little more than variations of theſe manœuvres.

On the Tactic of larger bodies than the ſingle Battalion, his Majeſty's Regulations go but little into detail; however, in the beginning of Part IV. they ſay "*The movements and manœuvres of a conſiderable Line are ſimilar to, and derived from, the ſame general principles as thoſe of the ſingle Battalion.*" Indeed, our reaſon tells us, that this muſt be the caſe, for, as the Tactic of the Battalion is built on that of the Platoon, ſo muſt the Tactic of the Line be built on that of the Battalion.

Under the head of "Aſſembly of the Battalion, and general Circumſtances of Exerciſe," the Regulations alſo inform us that "*Single Companies or Battalions, when at exerciſe, muſt generally conſider themſelves as part of a Line, and not always as detached or independent bodies: Their movements and formations ſhould be on the ſuppoſition of lining with other troops already placed on their flanks: two or more perſons ſeparated at a proper diſtance from one another, and from the Company or Battalion, may repreſent the flanks and center of an adjoining Battalion, and may always firſt take their ſtation in the new Line—this would cauſe the formations to be made, on determined, not on accidental points: the practice of which latter uſage much tends to occaſion that incorrectneſs and deficiency which ſometimes appear when any number of our Battalions are directed to move, act, or form in concert; in general, the Battalion ſhould not be looked on as a perfect, or ſeparate body, but only as a member of the Line, its movements, as relative to, or dependent on thoſe of others, and its principal operations ſhould be calculated accordingly.*"

Every military man muſt be ſenſible of the juſtneſs and force of theſe remarks; when an individual has been taught to march, to halt, to uſe his arms, he has learnt every thing which can be required of him as a ſingle individual; what he is next to learn is, to combine his efforts with thoſe of others. By being placed in a platoon, or company, and exerciſed with others, he becomes acquainted with the combinations of the platoon: ten Platoons, or Companies, are next formed into a Battalion, and exerciſed together; and thus he becomes acquainted with the combinations of the Battalion: and were a given number of Battalions placed in a Line, and exerciſed together, he would next become acquainted with the Tactic of the Line, and gain a ſcientific knowledge of his profeſſion: unfortunately, however, this does not always happen, and from hence flows the ſerious inconvenience and misfortune alluded to in the Regulations: for there is as little reaſon to hope, that a number of Battalions who have never acted in body, are, at once, to execute the evolutions of the Line with uniformity and exactneſs; as that a number of independent companies, who have never acted in concert, are at once to become maſters of the combinations of the Battalion.

To remedy, by theory, this misfortune, it will be ſeen above, the

* The Sixteenth Manœuvre having been divided into two, the evolutions are now nineteen in number.

Regulations

Regulations propoſe, that ſingle Battalions at exerciſe, ſhould throw out individuals to perſonate the flanks and centers of other corps; and immediately following the above extract, the Regulations ſay, " *In exerciſe the two flank Companies may be occaſionally ſeparated from the Battalion, and repreſent the center of two other Battalions; one of them will be named as the directing one in march, and the halt and dreſſing of the Battalion will be made from its own center towards each of them, as is directed for a Line of Battalions.*"

Thus the intention of the Regulations is, to enable one Battalion to perſonate three, by which means it may, in theory, go through the whole Tactic of the Line; for though one Battalion does not, yet three Battalions do, perform every evolution in the ſame exact way that fifty Battalions would perform it.

Adopting this idea of the Regulations, the plan of this Work is as follows: Nineteen Manœuvres, as before obſerved, are laid down for the diſcipline of the ſingle Battalion; upon examining theſe Manœuvres, it will be found, that every thing contained in the Tactic of the Line, may be exemplified under the head of one or other of them; and that this ſhould be the caſe, is very reaſonable, for they are both derived from the ſame general principles. The compiler of this work, therefore, takes a Brigade of three Battalions, and makes this Brigade perform every one of theſe nineteen evolutions upon the principles of the tactic of large bodies, and exemplifies, under one or other of them, every thing eſſential to the latter; thus bringing together, under the ſame heads, the diſcipline of the Battalion, of the Brigade, and of the Line, and at once pointing out how they mutually combine with each other.

To each evolution is affixed the appropriate commands to be given by the Brigadier or Chief, as well as the Commandants of Battalions; and we have only to ſuppoſe any number of Brigades, acting in the ſame way, or forming upon the given one, as hereafter pointed out, and we have at once, under our eye, the movements and evolutions of an army, be its magnitude what it may.

That this mode of arrangement, and diſcipline, is in immediate uniſon with the Regulations, and merely following their dictates, will appear from the directions given under the head of " Inſpection and Review of a Battalion of Infantry," where it is ſaid, " *when two or more Battalions are inſpected or exerciſe together, they will be formed in one Line, with the ordered intervals; they will receive the General, march paſt, and may perform the ſame identical movements, as are before preſcribed for the ſingle Battalion, obſerving the additional directions which are given for thoſe of the Line.*

This is preciſely what has been done in the following ſheets: and by thus complying with the directions contained in His Majeſty's Regulations, we ſhall find that the evolutions of the Battalion, of the Brigade, and of the Line, become ſo interwoven, that it is impoſſible to underſtand the one, without at once comprehending the whole.

It is not intended to make the Brigadier or Chief go into all the minutiæ of command, but each individual may in that particular accommodate this publication to his own ideas: all the minute orders neceſſary for putting each evolution into effect are given in the columns containing the orders of the commandants of battalions, and ſuch individual has only to transfer as many or as few of theſe into the columns containing the directions of the brigadier, as he thinks moſt conſonant to His Majeſty's Regulations: much pains have however been taken to frame this work in the ſtricteſt uniſon with what appears the intention of thoſe Regulations, and with what occurs in battle.

Thoſe who have been on actual ſervice muſt well know the difficulty of conveying inſtructions to large bodies by repeating them along a line during the noiſe and hurry of a general action; and how greatly this difficulty would be increaſed, if each minute command was required to be ſo conveyed: beſide which, it will often occur that one part of a line will advance, whilſt another will retire; that one battalion will file, whilſt another will wheel, &c. &c. conſequently that different commands are given to different battalions at the ſame inſtant, which ſeems to preclude the poſſibility of each minute command originating with the Chief or Brigadier.

In fact on actual ſervice, particularly under the fire of cannon and muſketry, the only certain mode of communicating inſtructions is through the medium of aids-de-camp and detached officers, who deliver theſe inſtructions to the commandants of battalions, and they looking to the regulating flank proceed to iſſue the minute orders for putting the inſtruction into effect the inſtant they hear the *general direction* for the movement paſs along the line, or if they don't hear it, ſee the battalions between them and the regulating one in motion.

To each evolution are affixed figures ſhewing the ſingle Brigade performing the manœuvre; next, an army of two lines performing it; with remarks, pointing out how the ſecond Line gains its relative poſition in each, agreeable to the data contained in His Majeſty's Regulations; the purpoſes to which each evolution is applied on actual ſervice, are alſo pointed out; and the whole finiſhes with reflections on the leading principles in the Science of War.

GENERAL RULES

IN THE

EVOLUTIONS OF LARGE BODIES.

WHEN any given number of corps aſſemble to act together, a regulating Battalion is named, by which the others are guided in their dreſſing, and from which every movement has its origin. This Battalion, as the Regulations term it, becomes the helm of the whole. The choice of this Battalion depends on circumſtances; it is very ſeldom, however, a center Battalion of a Line, but is generally within one or two corps of a flank, for upon a flank do battles uſually commence, and whichever is the wing likely firſt to be engaged, will naturally be the one to which the regulating Battalion will belong.

When a Line breaks into Columns, which are to move in uniſon, they are alſo guided in their movements by the one containing the regulating Battalion.

It is ſelf-evident that, under the fire of cannon, and other attendants on a battle, the human voice can ſcarcely extend the length of a ſingle corps, far leſs to that of a general Line; all explanations therefore, are made through the medium of the ſtaff, and detached officers; the Aids de Camp of the Chief carry it to the Generals of Diviſions, their ſtaff to the Brigadiers, and the ſtaff of the Brigadiers to the Battalions compriſing their reſpective Brigades, ſo that the orders afterwards announced become rather the ſignal for the movement to commence, than any neceſſary explanation of what is to be done, conſequently cannot be too ſhort. This has been conſtantly attended to in the ſubſequent details, and will be found to meet the ſpirit of his Majeſty's Regulations.

The Chief is, generally ſpeaking, near the regulating Battalion; though circumſtances may occur where he will find it neceſſary to ſhift his poſition, perhaps to change his regulating Battalion, or even to give his orders to the one which happens to be neareſt, at the time; but in ſuch inſtances the ſtaff ſhould be detached along the Line with information, ſo as to prevent miſtakes.

The Generals of Diviſions watch over their reſpective commands, and will, of courſe, when in Line, poſt themſelves behind that part of their diviſion where their preſence is likely to be moſt uſeful.

If any thing is to be done by one diviſion, and not generally by the whole, ſuch as moving in a different direction, breaking into Columns, taking poſt, &c. &c.; the orders of the Chief, if he does not chooſe to ſee it executed himſelf, are carried to the General commanding this Diviſion, and he executes them accordingly.

The Brigadier watches over his Brigade, ſubordinate to the General of his Diviſion; when in Line, the poſition he is likely to be moſt uſeful in is behind the flank of his Brigade, next to the general regulating Battalion of the Line, for on that ſide will each movement commence, and he is thus ready to announce, or repeat the general inſtruction, if not immediately taken up, or underſtood, by the Battalions under his command: to make the whole brigade hear his voice is almoſt impoſſible in any poſition; and, therefore, he deputes his ſtaff to ſee that the other corps of the Brigade immediately follow the general arrangement.

The Commanders of Battalions, when in Line, are each behind the center of their reſpective corps, and direct their regulating Serjeants. The Adjutant is on the flank, next the general regulating Battalion of the Line, and the Major on the oppoſite flank.

If the Line advances or retires, the Adjutant gives conſtant information how the Battalion is moving, and according to this information, the Colonel or Commandant directs the regulating Serjeants. If the corps is falling behind the general Line, he orders his Serjeants to ſtep out; if getting before, he orders them to ſtep ſhort; if opening from the regulating Battalion, he orders them to throw forward the proper ſhoulder; if crowding towards it, he orders them to advance

 the

the other ſhoulder. In Column the various Commanders are at the head of their reſpective diviſions.

That the Chief, or ſuperior officers cannot go into all the detail of command, is evident, for different commands are often given to different Battalions at the ſame inſtant, and if they could go into all the detail, it would run into endleſs repetition, and rather confuſe than ſimplify: on the other hand, if they go partially into the detail, there appear ſo many inſtances where they ſhould interfere, ſo many where they ſhould not, and ſo many where it is doubtful whether they ſhould or ſhould not, that unleſs ſome diſtinct line is drawn, the Commanders of Battalions become perplexed, and heſitate, when they are to proceed, or when they are to wait for inſtructions.

On this ſubject the firſt idea that ſuggeſts itſelf is, that the Chief and ſuperior officers ſhould merely confine themſelves to the general inſtruction, and that each Commandant of a Battalion, in ſo far as relates to his own corps, ſhould iſſue, from himſelf, the neceſſary orders for putting this general inſtruction into effect. But this rule will not altogether meet his Majeſty's Regulations; for in Section 187, an explanation is given of a cloſe Column deploying into Line, when beſide the general inſtruction that the Line will be formed on *ſuch a diviſion*, we are informed that the different Battalions alſo face and are put in motion by command from the Chief; which is going partially into the detail; but we find they are afterwards halted, and their interior formation made by orders from their reſpective Commandants.

The rule, therefore, that will completely meet his Majeſty's Regulations, and at the ſame time draw a marked diſtinction between the duties of the Commandants of Battalions and the ſuperior officers, is, that in order to promote co-operation, whenever more Battalions than one become moveable at the ſame time, that is, march wholly off the ground they are then on, they are faced, if they require facing, and are put in motion by command from the Chief under whoſe immediate orders they are; and whenever more Battalions than one are to be brought to a ſtand, at the ſame moment, they are alſo, for the ſame reaſon, halted by command from their Chief. But in all other inſtances whatever, the Chief merely confines himſelf to the firſt general inſtruction, and each Commandant of a Battalion executes it, as far as relates to his own corps, without any additional orders.

As before obſerved, this rule completely meets his Majeſty's Regulations, and is made to apply through the whole of the ſubſequent details, it cannot therefore be too much explained.

If Lines advance or retire, it is evident that the Battalions compriſing them, become wholly moveable; if Columns advance or retire, it is evident that the Battalions compriſing them become wholly moveable; if Echellons advance or retire, it is evident, that the Battalions compriſing them become wholly moveable; if Lines are thrown forward or backward on a fixed diviſion, it is evident, that the Battalions become wholly moveable, except the one containing the fixed diviſion. If the Battalions take up poſitions in detached Columns, it is evident they become wholly moveable. When Battalions face and move for the purpoſes of deployment, or for forming general Columns, they all, except the named one, become wholly moveable. When general Columns cloſe to the front or extend to open order, the Battalions, except the named one, become wholly moveable: in all ſuch inſtances, the Chief not only iſſues the firſt general inſtruction, but, in order to promote co-operation, the Battalions are put in motion by his command, and when more than one halts, at the ſame inſtant, he alſo iſſues the order for this purpoſe; but where Battalions wheel from Line into Column, or Column into Line; where Battalions ſtanding in Line take cloſe or open order; where Battalions counter-march, each on points of its own; where they form, each on ſerjeants or diviſions of its own; where they form grand diviſions on data of their own, &c. &c. theſe may be denominated interior formations, in which the corps do not become wholly moveable; on the contrary, they act and form on points, each within itſelf; in all ſuch caſes, the Chief merely confines himſelf to the firſt general inſtruction: in like manner if Battalions halt at different points, or march or wheel at different ſpaces of time, the Chief does not interfere beyond the firſt general inſtruction.

In wheeling from Column into Line, or from Line into Column, the different Battalions, as before ſaid, act on data within themſelves, nor do they become wholly moveable: conſequently the Chief merely confines himſelf to the firſt general inſtruction: on actual ſervice, it could be a matter of no moment whether the various Battalions wheeled at the ſame inſtant or not; ſo as they did it methodically within themſelves, it is all that could be wiſhed; but in parade duties it certainly has a fine effect to ſee the whole wheel at the ſame moment. If the commandants of corps were always alert in giving their orders, as nearly together as poſſible, the neceſſity of which cannot be too much impreſſed on them, the object would be gained; but if the Brigadier finds the effect better produced by his interference in giving the command, there ſeems no harm in his doing ſo, though contrary to the general rule above laid down. Where a general cloſe Column counter-marches, the parade effect will alſo be better if the whole face and are put in motion by command from the Chief.

In the following details, whenever the Brigade forms a general cloſe Column, it is denominated a Column of Line; which ſeems more in uniſon with the Regulations, than calling it a Column of Brigade, but either would anſwer.

By

Fig. 1st

Front

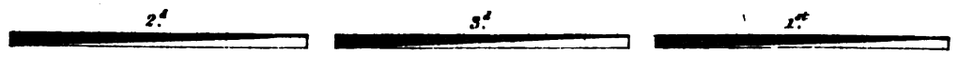
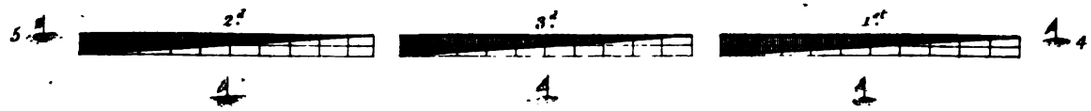


Fig. 2.



By extending our ideas from the evolutions of a Brigade to thoſe of an Army, we ſhall find that the one completely exemplifies the other; for we have only to ſuppoſe a number of Brigades formed in one Line, or in a general Column; that the Chief of the whole is with the regulating Battalion; that as ſoon as the Commandant of this Battalion announces aloud the commands of the Chief, it is rapidly repeated by the different Commandants of Corps along the Line; that the various Brigadiers watch over their reſpective Brigades, and if the general orders are not immediately taken up by the Battalions under their command, they again loudly announce them; that when any thing of a complex nature is to be performed it is previouſly explained, through the medium of the Aids de Camps and Staff Officers; that each Brigadier, ſubordinate to the General of his Diviſion, becomes a Chief to the Battalions under his command, and when he ſees the Brigade between him and the regulating Battalion face or move, he alſo directs his to face or move; we have only to ſuppoſe this much, and we have, as before obſerved, at once under our eye the movements and evolutions of an army, be its magnitude what it may. More will be found on this head at the end of the manœuvres.

FORMATION OF THE BRIGADE.

WHEN Three Battalions are out together in Brigade as an independent body, the Poſition they draw up in is as follows:—Firſt, on the Right; Second, on the Left; Third, in the Center; (ſee Fig. 1.) Twelve Paces between each Battalion; which, on Service, are occupied by the Battalion Guns.

When the Brigadier, or Colonel in Chief, comes upon the Ground of Exerciſe, he will find the Battalions drawn out at Open Order, with Camp Colours planted as Points to act upon. (See Fig. 2.) The Colour No. 1, is the General's Colour, where the Reviewing General takes his Poſition, and oppoſite to which the Brigade uſually begins and ends its Manœuvres. The Colour No. 2, is the Right wheeling Colour, and the Colour No. 3, is the Left wheeling Colour. The Colour No. 4, is the Right Flank Colour. The Colour No. 5, is the Left Flank Colour. The Colours in the Rear mark the Center of each Battalion. The Brigadier proceeds to the General's Colour, where he is met by the Commandants of Battalions, who inform him their Corps are ready and wait his Inſtructions. The Commanding Officers of Battalions proceed to their Poſts. Every thing is now ready to receive his Majeſty, ſuppoſing him to review the Brigade. See the Regulations, "*Inſpection or Review of a Battalion of Infantry.*"

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	General Explanations.
		When the Brigadier perceives His Majeſty, or the Reviewing General advancing, he will move, on Horſeback, to oppoſite the Center of the third Battalion, and direct
Attention. Shoulder Arms. - -	Attention. Shoulder Arms. - -	The whole Shoulder. The Brigadier now proceeds to the General's Flag or Colour where he receives His Majeſty, and preſents him with a Return of the Brigade, and a Card of the Evolutions to be performed. The Brigadier again returns to his poſition, and His Majeſty advances towards the Center of the Brigade or poſt of the Brigadier.
Preſent Arms. - -	Preſent Arms. - -	The whole Preſent Arms, the Officers ſalute, the Colours are dropped, and the Muſic plays "God ſave the King." The Brigadier ſalutes his Majeſty at the ſame time with the other Officers; when the Muſic ſtops playing, he directs
Shoulder Arms. - -	Shoulder Arms. - -	The whole Shoulder; the Muſic are before inſtructed how long to play; they ſtop only till the Brigade ſhoulders, and then continue playing till His Majeſty has paſt round the whole. It is to be uniformly underſtood, that in every order given by the Officers commanding Corps, they are to take the time from the Commandant of the Regulating Battalion. His Majeſty now moves to the Right Flank of the Brigade, and paſſes along the Front of the Line, and it appears proper that the Brigadier ſhould accompany him to anſwer any queſtions His Majeſty may have to aſk. The King having reached the Left Flank of the Brigade, proceeds up the Rear, and returns by the Right Flank to his original ſtation.
		The Brigadier having returned to his poſition directs
Take Cloſe Order. -	Take Cloſe Order. - Quick, March. - -	The whole take Cloſe Order; the Captains place themſelves on the Right of their reſpective Companies; the Colonels and Lieutenant Colonels mount their Horſes; the Majors are at all times mounted, as are the Adjutants; the other Officers paſs to their different ſtations at Cloſe Order, and the Brigade is now ready for movement. The Commandants of Corps, as before obſerved, will recollect, that in every inſtance, where circumſtances admit, they are to take the time for iſſuing their orders from the Regulating Battalion. In wheeling from Line into Column, or from Column into Line, they will be moſt particularly attentive to this circumſtance, and to be very careful not to give the words "Quick March," till firſt given by the Commandant of the Regulating Battalion; on the other hand, he is to be equally attentive not to give the words "Quick, March," till he ſees they are ready to repeat; to inſure, if poſſible, the wheel at the ſame inſtant, on which the good appearance of the whole ſo much depends.
		When the Brigadier ſees all ſteady, he proceeds
Paſs in Review. - -	Paſs in Review. Companies on your Left backwards wheel.	

Quick,

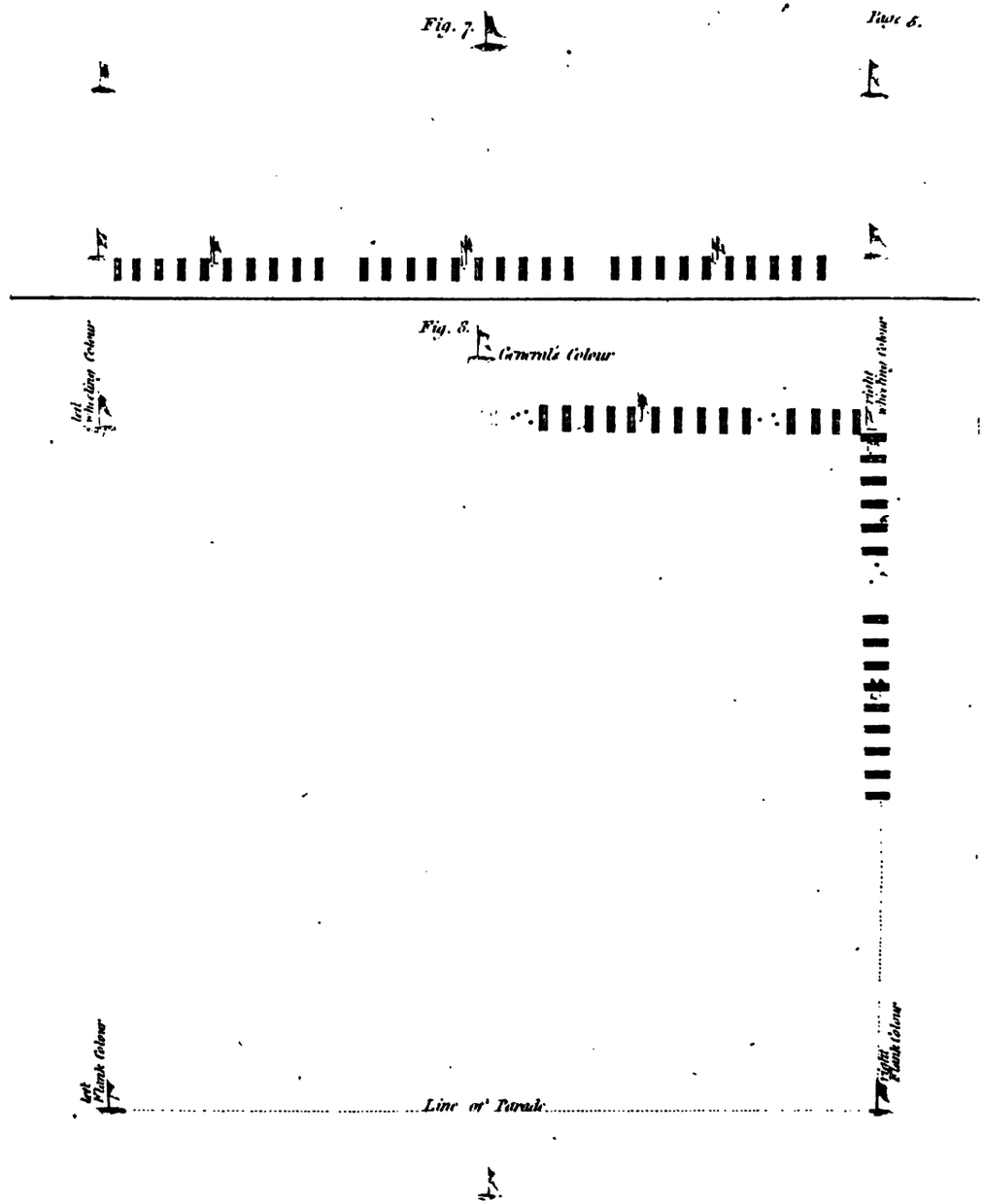


Fig. 7.
Fig. 6.
Fig. 8.
General Colour
left Shelting Colour
right Shelting Colour
left Flank Colour
right Flank Colour
Line of Parade

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
	Quick, March. - -	The whole Companies wheel back into Open Column, Right in Front, Fig. 7.
March. - - - -	March. - - - -	The whole Column moves on till the Front Company arrives at the Right Flank Colour, when it wheels to the Left, and advances towards the Right wheeling Colour, followed by all the others in ſucceſſion.
		The Brigadier now places himſelf between the Muſic who are in front of the Column, and the head of it, which is formed by the Grenadiers of the Firſt Battalion, the Colonel and Major of the Firſt being immediately behind him. Where larger bodies than one Battalion paſs in Review, Officers do not ſalute unleſs particularly ordered, we ſhall ſuppoſe this to have been done.
		When the leading Company reaches the Right wheeling Colour, it again wheels to the Left, which brings it in a line with His Majeſty; all the others do ſo in ſucceſſion, and the Muſic begins to play; as the leading Company comes within 50 yards of His Majeſty, it, and all the others in turn, Open Ranks, and the Officers ſalute at the diſtance of ſix paces. See Fig. 8.
		The Brigadier ſalutes when he comes within ſix paces of his Majeſty, he then falls out or quits the Column and joins the King's ſuite, where he remains till the whole Column has paſſed, when he moves towards the Center Battalion, keeping on the Left Flank, and directs
Halt. - - - - -	Halt. - - - - -	The Front of the Column has by this time wheeled at the Left wheeling Colour, and has nearly reached the Left Flank Colour, each Company having cloſed its Ranks when 30 paces paſt the King.
Support Arms.	Support Arms.	
Quick, March. - -	Quick, March. - -	The whole having ſupported arms, ſtep off at quick time; the leading Company, if it has not already done it, now wheels at the Left Flank Colour, which brings it in a line with its old poſition, towards which it now proceeds, followed by the others in ſucceſſion; when it again reaches the Right Flank Colour, it wheels to the left, and advances towards the right wheeling Colour.
		So ſoon as the Brigadier ſees the leading Company has nearly reached the Right wheeling Colour, he directs
Carry Arms. - - -	Carry Arms. - - -	The whole carry arms without halting; when the leading Company has wheeled at the right wheeling Colour, which again brings it in a line with his Majeſty, the Muſic begins to play, the whole paſs as before, only that the ranks are not opened, nor do the Officers ſalute; as the Column has its right in front, the left Flank is the pivot; but in paſſing his Majeſty the Officers ſhift to the other ſide.
		It does not ſeem poſitively defined whether the Brigadier is to fall in the ſecond time of paſſing, or not; but there can be no harm in doing it. So ſoon as he ſees the whole Column has paſt his Majeſty he directs
Halt. - - - - -	Halt. - - - - -	The whole halt.
March. - - - -	March. - - - -	The whole move on till they reach their original ground.
Halt. - - - - -	Halt. - - - - -	The whole halt.
Wheel into Line. -	By Companies, to the Left, wheel into Line.	

Quick

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	General Explanations.
	Quick, March. -	The whole wheel into Line, and ſtand as they did before they formed Column. See Fig. 9. Paſſing in Review being finiſhed, which forms a part in all Reviews, what would follow muſt depend on prior arrangement, we ſhall therefore proceed to the Manual and Platoon Exerciſes, which with Nineteen Manœuvres and Conſtructions, and Movements of Lines, form the preſent Syſtem of Military Diſcipline. The Manual and Platoon Exerciſes will be performed by the Major of each Battalion giving the Commands to his own reſpective Corps, and taking the time from the Regulating Battalion.

Fig. 9.

Brigade in Line.

MANUAL AND PLATOON EXERCISES.

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
Perform the Manual and Platoon Exerciſes. -	Repeated. - - -	The Senior Major of each Battalion advances in front of its Center. The Brigadier and other Field Officers go in the rear. The Majors, taking the time from the Regulating Battalion, direct the Rear Ranks to Take Open Order—Quick March—Order Arms—Return Bayonets—Shoulder Arms. The Officers will take poſt of Exerciſe in the Rear—March—Halt—Front.—Order Arms—Fix Bayonets—Shoulder Arms—Preſent Arms—Shoulder Arms—Charge Bayonets—Shoulder Arms. Platoon Exerciſe: Rear Ranks take Cloſe Order—Quick March; Prime and Load—Front Rank, kneeling, Ready, Preſent, Fire, Load—Front Rank, ſtanding, Ready, Preſent, Fire, Load.—The Majors return to the Rear, and report they have done as was directed. Previous to commencing the Manœuvres, the whole Prime and Load with Cartridge.
With Cartridge, Prime and Load. - - -	Repeated. - - - -	The whole Load. Every thing is now ready to proceed with the Manœuvres; but before beginning it is neceſſary to remark, that a portion of them, viz. the Firſt, Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Eighth, Ninth, and Tenth, may be performed in more ways than one, by a Brigade or Line of an Army; for inſtance, the Firſt Manœuvre; the Battalions of a Line might each form a Cloſe Column in rear of their reſpective Grenadiers, and then deploy; or Columns of Line might be formed each conſiſting of a Brigade, and deploy from that Formation; or Columns might be formed conſiſting of ſeveral Brigades each, and deploy from thence; and laſtly, the whole Line might form in one general Column and then deploy. It is needleſs to ſhew how the Battalions would execute the different Manœuvres, if each acted independent of the other; becauſe they would in that caſe merely follow the common Battalion practice, which is already amply detailed: all that will therefore be neceſſary is to ſhew how a Brigade of Three Battalions would perform each Manœuvre acting as one Body, which will be found to exemplify every thing that can occur in larger bodies. For whether a Column conſiſts of one Brigade, of ſeveral Brigades, or of the whole Line, the mode of formation and ſubſequent deployment is the ſame; the only trifling difference would be that when the Column was to conſiſt of more than one Brigade, each Brigadier would have to ſpecify in his orders, both the Battalion and the Brigade, on which the Formation was to take place; ſo that inſtead of ſaying in the Rear of the Right Battalion, he would have to ſay in the Rear of the Right Battalion of ſuch a Brigade; and ſo on in other Formations.

FIRST

FIRST MANŒUVRE.

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
		Preſent Poſition of the Brigade. See Fig. 10.
		This Manœuvre ſhews how the Battalions of a Brigade or Line form Cloſe Columns in Rear of their Right Companies; then Column of Line in Rear of the Right Battalion; and from thence deploy in maſs on the Left Battalion, and into Line on the Left Diviſion of the whole.
(Section 137.) Form Cloſe Columns of Companies in Rear of Grenadiers. - -	Repeated. Right Face. Quick March. - -	The Grenadiers of each Battalion ſtand faſt; the remaining Companies of each form in their rear. Fig. 11 ſhews Three Companies in each Column formed, and the others on the march.
		When the whole are formed in their poſitions, the Brigade, in Three Cloſe Columns of Companies, will ſtand as in Fig. 12.
		[*Theſe Columns might now move forward to paſs irregular ground, or to gain any other purpoſe for which the formation was taken; and then again deploy into Line, either on the march or halted, according to the practice of the ſingle Battalion.*]
		We proceed to ſhew how from Battalion Columns they form a Column of Line in Rear of the Grenadiers of the Firſt Battalion, and from thence deploy into Line, which will point out how an Army would place itſelf in Cloſe Columns, each conſiſting of a Brigade, and again deploy; and if the Columns were to conſiſt of ſeveral Brigades, or of a whole Line, the mode of formation and ſubſequent deployment would be exactly the ſame.
(Section 190.) Form a Column of Line in Rear of the Firſt Battalion. - - -	Repeated. - - -	The Commandant of the Firſt Battalion directs it to ſtand faſt.
Right Face. - - -	Right Face. - - -	By the Commandants of the Second and Third.
Quick March. - -	Quick March. - -	The Right hand Column ſtands faſt; the remaining Columns face to their Right, and move off at Quick Time, along the Parade Line, till near the Firſt Battalion, when they face again, in ſucceſſion, to the Right, and move towards the Rear, till oppoſite their poſitions; they then face to the Left and move into them. The Third forms in Rear of the Firſt, and the Second in Rear of the Third. The Three Battalions will ſtand in one Cloſe Column of Companies, with the Drums, &c. on the reverſe Flank, and an interval of Three Paces between each. See Fig. 13.

From

Fig. 10

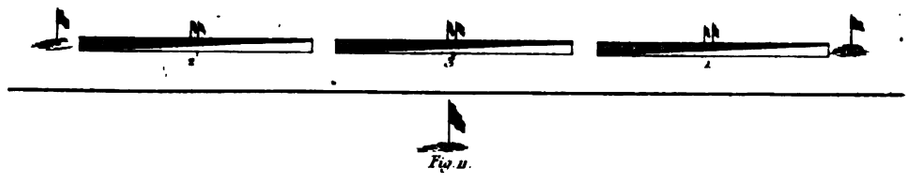


Fig. 11.

Brigade forming Columns of Companies in rear of the Grenadiers.

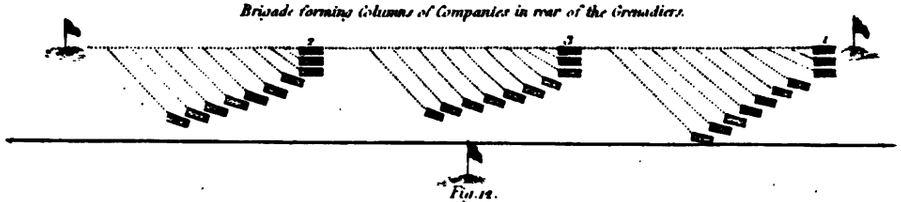


Fig. 12.

Brigade formed in Columns of Companies in rear of the Grenadiers
Close order

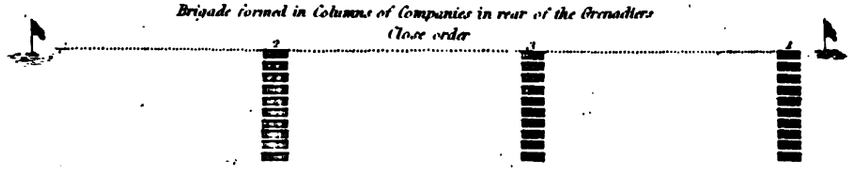


Fig. 1.

Brigade formed in a close Column in rear of the Grenadiers of the First Regiment.

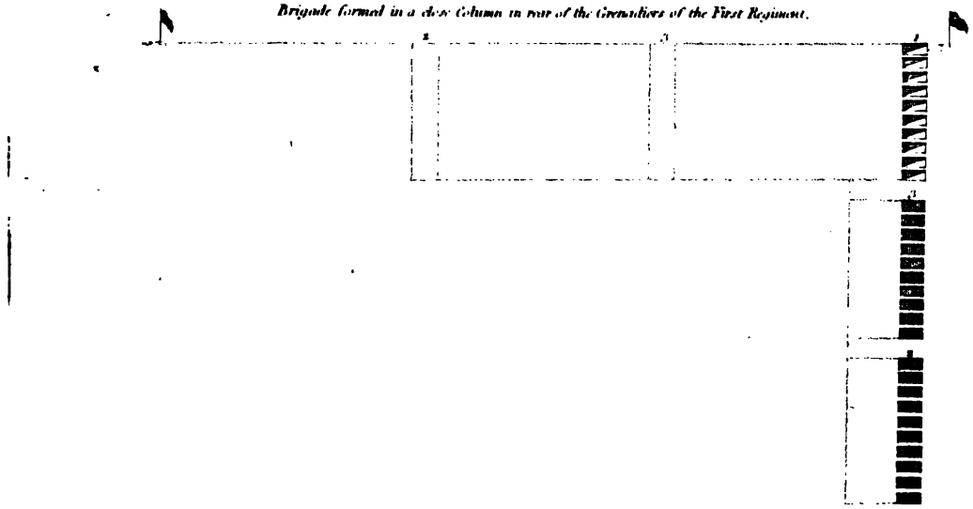


Fig. 14.

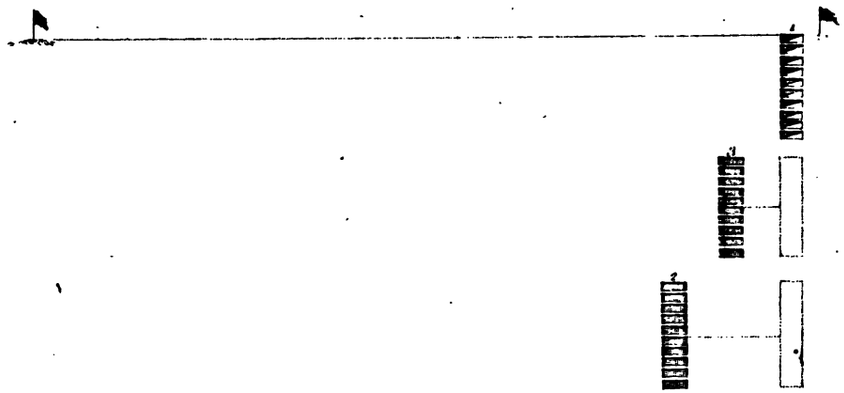


Fig. 15.

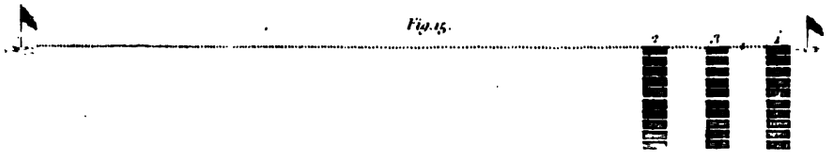


Fig. 16.

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
		From its preſent poſition, the Brigade, by extending its Diviſions into Open Column and wheeling into Line, would ſtand exactly at Right Angles to the Line it poſſeſſed prior to the formation of Columns. It might form Line in various directions, or advance in Column at Cloſe, Quarter, Half, or Open Order, &c. &c. but to complete the Firſt Manœuvre, it is neceſſary it ſhould deploy in the ſame prolongation of Line it occupied at the commencement of the Evolution.
		The Brigade is now ſtanding in a Cloſe Column of Companies, and is to deploy into Line. A Column of Line which does not exceed Two or Three Battalions may occaſionally deploy as a ſingle Corps, by forming a Column of Grand Diviſions and deploying upon any Diviſion of the whole that may be ſpecified, (See Cloſe Column of the Line); but as this is never done where it conſiſts of more than Three Battalions, if it can be avoided, and even with Three Battalions is apt to be incorrect, the beſt plan is to adopt the mode which Cloſe Columns of Line in an Army are directed to deploy in, which is as follows:
(Section 187 and 191.) Deploy on the Second Battalion. - - -	Repeated. - - -	The Second Battalion is cautioned by its Commandant to Stand Faſt.
Right Face. - - -	Right Face.	
Quick March. - -	Quick March. - -	The Column of the Second Battalion ſtands faſt; the other Two face to the Right, and they, Drums, &c. move off at Quick Time. So ſoon as the Column of the Third has got clear of the Second, by a ſpace equal to a Company and half's front, the Commanding Officer ſays, Column—Halt, Front; the Column of the Firſt moves on till clear of the Third, by an equal ſpace, when it halts and fronts. See Fig. 14.
		The Second Battalion, the moment its front is clear, marches forward into the new Line, and the others move up and dreſs with it; Muſic and Drums in rear of their reſpective Columns. The Brigade now ſtands in Three Columns of Companies; the heads of which are in a Line with each other, and divided by a ſpace equal to the front of a Company and a half. See Fig. 15.
Form Grand Diviſions.	Form Grand Diviſions.	
	Alternate Companies—Left Face.	
	March. - - - - -	The alternate Companies move out till clear of the other Diviſions, and then form on them. If the Flank Companies are with their Corps, each Battalion will conſiſt of Five Grand Diviſions; the Firſt Company will Form on the Left of the Grenadiers, and ſo on: if the Grenadiers are detached, the Second Company will place itſelf on the Left of the Firſt, and ſo on. In all Columns with the Left in Front, the alternate Companies face and lead to the Right inſtead of the Left.
Take Cloſe Order. -	Take Cloſe Order.	
	March. - - - -	The Three Columns take Cloſe Order; See Fig. 16.

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
Form Line on the Fifth Diviſion of the Second Battalion. -	Repeated.	
Right Face. - - -	Right Face.	
Quick March. - -	Quick March. - -	The whole move.
Fifth Diviſion of the Second Battalion, — Halt. - - - - -	Fifth Diviſion, Halt, Front. - - - -	By the Commandant of the Second Battalion.
	Fourth Grand Diviſion, Halt, Front; and ſo on. - - - - - -	After the Commandant or a Field Officer of the Second Battalion has halted all his Diviſions, each as it gets clear of the one halted before it, a ſimilar Officer of the Third proceeds to halt his Diviſions in the ſame manner, leaving the proper diſtance between the Battalions; and then a ſimilar one of the Firſt halts his Diviſions, leaving a like diſtance. When the Fifth Diviſion of the Second finds its front clear, it moves forward and dreſſes in the new Line; and the other Diviſions in turn, move forward and dreſs between it and the Colour thrown out. Fig. 17 ſhews how the different Diviſions are halted; it is not, however, to be underſtood that they wait till the whole is thus halted; the Fifth Diviſion of the Second, ſo ſoon as it is free from the other Diviſions, moves into the new Line, followed by the others in ſucceſſion; ſo that before the whole Diviſions are halted, a conſiderable part of the new Line is formed. The Brigade has now deployed into Line, on its left-hand Diviſion, viz. the Fifth Diviſion of the Second, upon the ſame principle that a ſingle Battalion deploying into Line by the Firſt Manœuvre, makes the Deployment on its Light Infantry or left-hand Diviſion. The Brigade in Line, ſee Fig. 18. Fire, as the Brigadier may direct. The Brigade proceeds to the

Fig 17.

The Divisions halted at their different positions

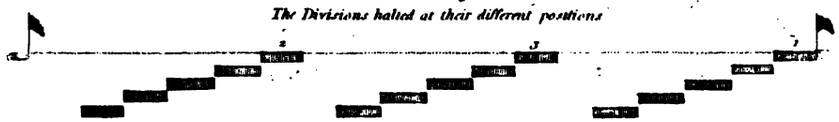
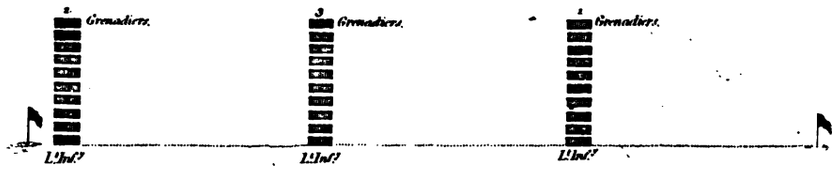


Fig.18.

The Brigade in Line.

Fig. 19.



The Dots shew where the Line was previous to forming Columns.

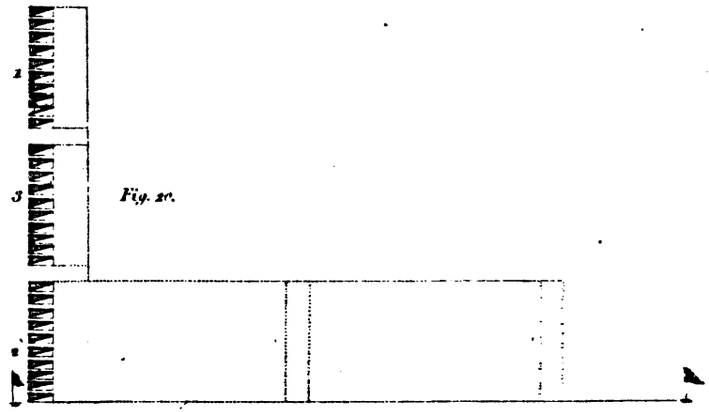


Fig. 20.

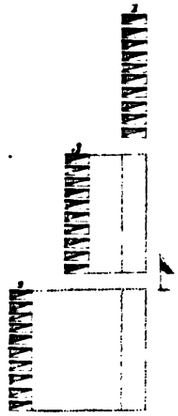


Fig. 21.

Fig. 22.

SECOND MANŒUVRE.

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
		The Second Manœuvre reſembles the Firſt, with this difference, that the formations are in Front of the Left, inſtead of in Rear of the Right; and the Deployments are on the Right Battalion and Right Diviſion of the Line, inſtead of being on the Left Battalion and Left Diviſion of the Line.
(Section 137.) Form Cloſe Columns of Companies in Front of Light Infantry.	Repeated. Left Face. Quick March. - -	The Light Infantry Companies ſtand faſt; the remaining Companies of each Battalion face to the Left, and move in file towards the Front of the Light Infantry, where they range themſelves in Columns of Companies with the Grenadiers in front, Fig. 19. The Brigade now proceeds to form a Column of Line by the ſame Manœuvre, which elucidates the ſame circumſtances as the Second Part of the Firſt Manœuvre, with this exception, that the Formations are to the Left inſtead of the Right.
(Section 190.) Form a Column of Line in Front of the Second Battalion. - Left Face. - - - Quick March. - -	Repeated. Left Face. Quick March. - -	The Second Battalion ſtands faſt; the other Columns face to the Left and move to their poſitions, as deſcribed in the Firſt Manœuvre, only to the Front inſtead of the Rear; they place themſelves before the Second, with which they form a general Column, leaving a ſpace between each of Three Paces. See Fig. 20. The Brigade is now in a Cloſe Column, from whence it might form Line in a variety of ways, as deſcribed in the Firſt Manœuvre: By extending its Diviſions to Open Order, and wheeling thoſe Diviſions to the Left, it would form a Line perpendicular to the Left Flank of its former Poſition in Line; by facing to the Right about, and extending towards the Rear, another might be formed in that direction; by facing outwards from the Center, and extending into Open Order both ways at once, a Line would be very rapidly formed croſſing the Flank of the Firſt poſition at right angles; and theſe Lines would each of them have the ſame front with thoſe produced in the ſame way by the Firſt Manœuvre. The Column might deploy to Right or Left; advance to-

 wards

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	General Explanations.
		wards the Front, or move towards the Rear, &c. &c. Having pointed out its advantages in part, it proceeds to deploy into Line on the principle of the Second Manœuvre. The firſt ſtep is to deploy in Maſs, as it is termed, on the Firſt Battalion.
(Section 187 and 191.) Deploy on the Firſt Battalion. - - - - -	Repeated. - - -	The Firſt Battalion ſtands faſt.
Left Face. - - -	Left Face. - - -	By the Commandants of the Second and Third.
Quick March. - -	Quick March. - -	The Second and Third Battalions move to the Left till the Third has paſſed the Firſt by a ſpace equal to the Front and a half of a Company; the Second proceeds till it has paſſed the Third as much; each fronts as it is ready (See Fig. 21), and moves up into Line with the Column of the Firſt. The Brigade is now in Three Cloſe Columns of Companies; the heads of which are in a line with each other, and divided by a ſpace equal to a Company and a half. See Fig. 22.
Form Grand Diviſions.	Form Grand Diviſions.	
	Alternate Companies--- Left Face.	
	March. - - - - -	The alternate Companies move to the Left, as before deſcribed, and form on the others.
Cloſe to the Front. -	Cloſe to the Front.	
	March. - - - - -	They cloſe to the Front. See Fig. 23.
Form Line on the Firſt Diviſion of the Firſt Battalion. - - -	Repeated.	
Left Face. - - -	Left Face.	
Quick March. - -	Quick, March. - -	They all face to the Left and move off.
		When the Brigadier thinks they have moved far enough,
Firſt Diviſion of the Firſt Battalion—Halt.	Firſt Diviſion --- Halt, Front. - - - - -	By the Commandant of the Firſt Battalion.
		The Firſt Diviſion of the Firſt Battalion halts, fronts, and dreſſes in the Line; the other Diviſions are each halted by their different Commandants, or a Field Officer, as deſcribed before in the Firſt Manœuvre; they then move up, in turn, and dreſs between the Firſt Diviſion of the Firſt, and the Colour thrown out to the Left of the Brigade. See Fig. 24.
		The Brigade is again in Line (Fig. 25), and proceeds to fire as the Brigadier may direct.

Fig. 23.

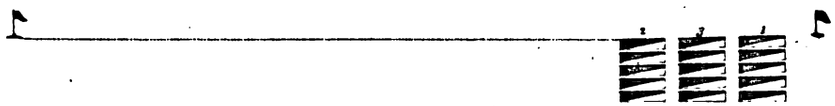


Fig. 24.

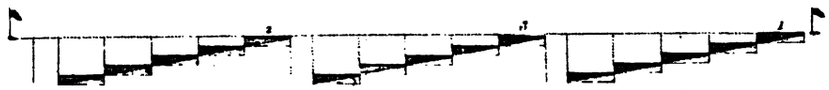
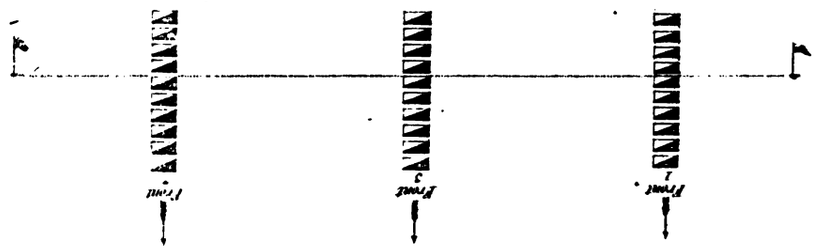


Fig. 25.

Fig. 16.



THIRD MANŒUVRE.

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
		The Third Manœuvre in part reſembles the foregoing ones; it is a Cloſe Column formed on a Central Company, and facing to the Rear; it exemplifies the ſame general circumſtances as the other two, in both its parts; in addition to which, it ſhews how the Cloſe Column countermarches.
(Section 138.) Form Cloſe Columns on the Right Center Companies, Left in Front, and facing to the Rear. - - -	Repeated. - - -	The Right Center Companies countermarch, and ſtand fronting to the Rear.
	Outwards Face. - -	The remaining Companies of each Battalion face outwards.
	To the Left Countermarch.	
	Quick, March. - -	The Companies of each Battalion move off, wheeling round or countermarching to their left hand, which brings the Companies of the Right Wing in Rear of the Right Center Company; and thoſe of the Left Wing, in front of the Right Center Company: they all range themſelves before and behind the Right Center Company of their reſpective Battalions, in Cloſe Columns of Companies, with their Light Infantry or Left in Front, and facing to the Rear, See Fig. 26.
		The Brigade proceeds to form a Cloſe Column of Line fronting to the Rear, and Left in Front.
(Section 190.) Form a Column of Line on the Third Battalion, Left in Front.	Repeated. - - -	The Third Battalion ſtands faſt.
		The Brigadier makes a ſhort pauſe to enable the Commandants to explain what is to be done, and directs
Inwards Face. - -	Inwards Face. - -	The Firſt Battalion faces to the Right, the Second Battalion faces to the Left. The Commandants ſhould recollect on this, and every other occaſion, to repeat the orders of the Chief as nearly together and as rapidly as poſſible.
Quick, March. - -	Quick, March. - -	The Columns of the Firſt and Second Battalions having faced inwards, towards the Third, each by command of its own Colonel, they both move off; the Firſt places itſelf in the rear of the Third, and the Second in its front, as deſcribed in the preceding Manœuvres.

The

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
		The Brigade now ſtands in a Cloſe Column of Line with its Left in Front, (See Fig. 27) and from which it might extend into Line in a variety of ways, as before obſerved of the Cloſe Columns formed by the Firſt and Second Manœuvres. By facing outwards from the Center of the Column, and extending the Diviſions into open diſtance, in both directions at the ſame time, and afterwards wheeling up, a Line might be ſpeedily formed which would cut the original one through the Center at right angles; and this, like any other one formed by extending the Column to Open Order, would front in the oppoſite direction to thoſe produced the ſame way by the Firſt or Second Manœuvre; or was the Column in its preſent ſituation to deploy into Line on the Third Battalion, it would form a Line directly in rear, and parallel to the original one, but fronting the oppoſite way.
(Sections 101 and 181.)		When the Brigadier ſees the Cloſe Column of Line formed,
The Column will countermarch. - - -	Repeated.	
	Left Face. - - -	The whole face to the Left.
	Left hand Companies—March. Halt. -	The Left Companies lead out and halt. See Fig. 28.
	To the Left—Countermarch.	
	Quick March. - -	The whole wheel round or countermarch to the Left by Files; when the head of the Column will again face in the ſame way with the original poſition in Line (See Fig. 29); the original poſition in Line means the poſition the troops occupied at the commencement of the Evolutions or Firſt Manœuvre.
		The Regulations leave it optional either to Countermarch in a Cloſe Column of Line, or to Countermarch after the different Corps have deployed into Battalion Columns.
		Should the above be thought productive of confuſion, the other mode may anſwer better; which is merely to deploy in maſs into Battalion Columns, and then to Countermarch, inſtead of doing ſo in one general Column.
		The Brigade is ſtanding, as ſhewn in Fig. 29, in a Column of Line facing towards the original direction and Grenadiers in Front; it proceeds with the reſidue of the Third Manœuvre.
(Sections 187 and 191.)		
Deploy on the Third Battalion. - - -	Repeated. - - -	The Third Battalion ſtands faſt.
		Here again the Brigadier ſhould allow a ſhort pauſe for explanation.
Outwards Face. - -	Outwards Face. - -	The Firſt Battalion faces to the Right, the Second Battalion faces to the Left.
Quick March. - -	Quick March. - -	The Battalions having faced outwards, move off to a diſtance equal to the front of a Company and a half, each beyond the Third Battalion to Right and Left. See Fig. 30.
		The Third Battalion advances into the new Line ſo ſoon as the other Battalions are clear of its Front; and the Firſt and Second form to Right and Left of it.

The

Fig. 17.

Front

Page 14.

Fig. 28.

Fig. 29.

Fig. 30.

Fig. 31.

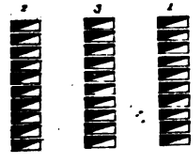


Fig. 32.

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
		The Brigade is now ſtanding in Three Cloſe Columns, Grenadiers in Front, as pointed out in Fig. 31.
(Section 147.) Form Grand Diviſions.	Form Grand Diviſions. Alternate Companies—Left Face. March. - - - -	The alternate Companies range themſelves on the Left of the others, as before deſcribed.
(Section 147.) Cloſe to the Front. -	Cloſe to the Front. March. - - - -	They Cloſe to the Front. See Fig. 32.

So long as the Corps act in ſeparate bodies independent of each other, they follow in every thing what the ſingle Battalion would do. Had they before forming a Column of Line, countermarched in ſeparate Battalions, each on a Company of its own, and then deployed into Line, each on a Diviſion of its own, the deployment would have been made agreeable to the principles laid down for the ſingle Battalion, in the Third Manœuvre, and Grand Diviſions would not have been formed; but though the Regulations admit of deploying by Companies either on a Flank or Central Diviſion, yet in Corps larger than the ſingle Battalion, if there is time, an accurate Line is more likely to be obtained by always forming Grand Diviſions; if the Columns have their Right in front, the alternate Companies in forming them lead out to the Left; if the Columns have their Left in front, they lead out to the Right.

In Section 187, a detail is given of Three Battalions deploying into Line on a Central Diviſion of the Third Battalion; when inſtead of making the Deployment by Companies, Grand Diviſions are directed to be formed; which ſhews, that whether the Deployment is made on a Central or Flank Diviſion, this is conſidered the moſt methodical way in all bodies exceeding one Corps: for the depth of the Columns being thereby contracted, the diſtances between the Corps are more accurately taken; and they not only move with more eaſe along the Line of formation, but the Commanders of the Battalions or a Field Officer can halt each Diviſion themſelves, and being on horſeback can ſee and make allowances for any little inaccuracies that may have taken place in the halts of the preceding Diviſions: this is of no great importance in a ſingle Battalion where the Diviſions can afterwards incline outwards or inwards to their proper poſitions as they form up; but very different is the caſe in a line of Battalions where each begins its deployment from the laſt halted Diviſion of the preceding Corps, without giving it time to correct its errors; if, therefore, the Diviſions in halting take too much room, gaps muſt inevitably be created in the new Line; if they have taken too little, a portion of the Corps which have thus erred muſt be ſhut out of the Line altogether. When the extenſion is made by Companies either on a Flank or Central Diviſion, the Battalions deploy in maſs, and arrange themſelves within ſix paces of each other (ſee Cloſe Column of Line, paragraph 7); the front Diviſion of each is halted by its Commandant, the others by their Captains.

The Columns now deploy into Line upon the Third Grand Diviſion of the Third Battalion.

(Sections

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
(Sections 187 and 191.) Form Line on the Third Diviſion of the Third Battalion.	Repeated. - - - -	The Third Diviſion of the Third Battalion ſtands faſt.
Outwards Face. - -	Outwards Face. - -	The Firſt Battalion, and the Two front Grand Diviſions of the Third, face to the Right; the Second Battalion, and the Two rear Grand Diviſions of the Third, face to the Left.
Quick March. - -	Quick, March. -	The whole move off at Quick Time, except the Third Grand Diviſion of the Third, which ſtands faſt till uncovered, when it moves forward into Line; each other Diviſion being halted by a Field Officer, as it clears the front of the one halted before it. They move up and dreſs to Right and Left of the Third Diviſion, Third Battalion, leaving the proper diſtances between the Corps. Fig. 33.
		The Brigade is again in Line. See Fig. 34.

Remarks on the Firſt, Second, and Third Manœuvres.

The Three Firſt Manœuvres ſhew how individual Battalions, Brigades, or larger portions of an Army form themſelves into Cloſe Columns and again extend into Line. The Cloſe Column is a formation taken by Diviſions of an Army, for the purpoſes of paſſing broken grounds, bridges, defiles, &c. where the object is again to form in Line to the front when the difficulty is paſſed. The breadth and depth of the Columns muſt depend on the objects in view; they may have a front of Two Companies, of One Company, of a Sub-diviſion, or Section, &c. and may conſiſt of a Battalion, a Brigade, or larger body. The Cloſe Column is alſo a formation taken by parts of an Army in attacks made in broken grounds, in defiles, paſſing rivers and bridges, in night operations, ſtorms of fortreſſes, lines, &c. where the nature of the ſervice and circumſtances of the caſe will not allow of acting in Line; Figure o. ſhews an attack of this nature. The breadth and ſtrength of the Columns will, as before, be guided by the objects; but, if poſſible, ſhould never conſiſt of leſs than double Files, or ſix in front; which, if attacked on both flanks at once, a circumſtance not unuſual in woody defiles, and ſervices of this nature, would enable them, by a ſingle face outwards, to ſhew a front both ways, having as many deep in each face as can fire to advantage, and leſs likely to be thrown into confuſion, perhaps, than if the Column was broader; but as defence in ſuch caſes is only the ſecondary conſideration, and the object to be carried is to the front, the Column would naturally be made as ſtrong in that particular as the breadth of the bridge, defile, breach, or work to be entered would admit of. The Cloſe Column is alſo uſed in ſtreet firing; and laſt, though not of leaſt importance, it is uſed as a primary ſtep when Troops deploy into Line in face of an enemy.

We ſhall ſuppoſe an Army having determined to come to action with another, moves off to the Front in Columns of March conſiſting of Brigades or larger bodies, according to the roads or nature

Fig.33.

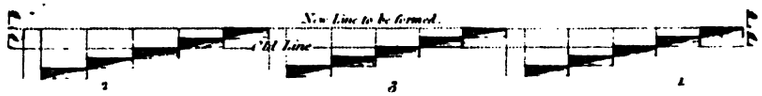
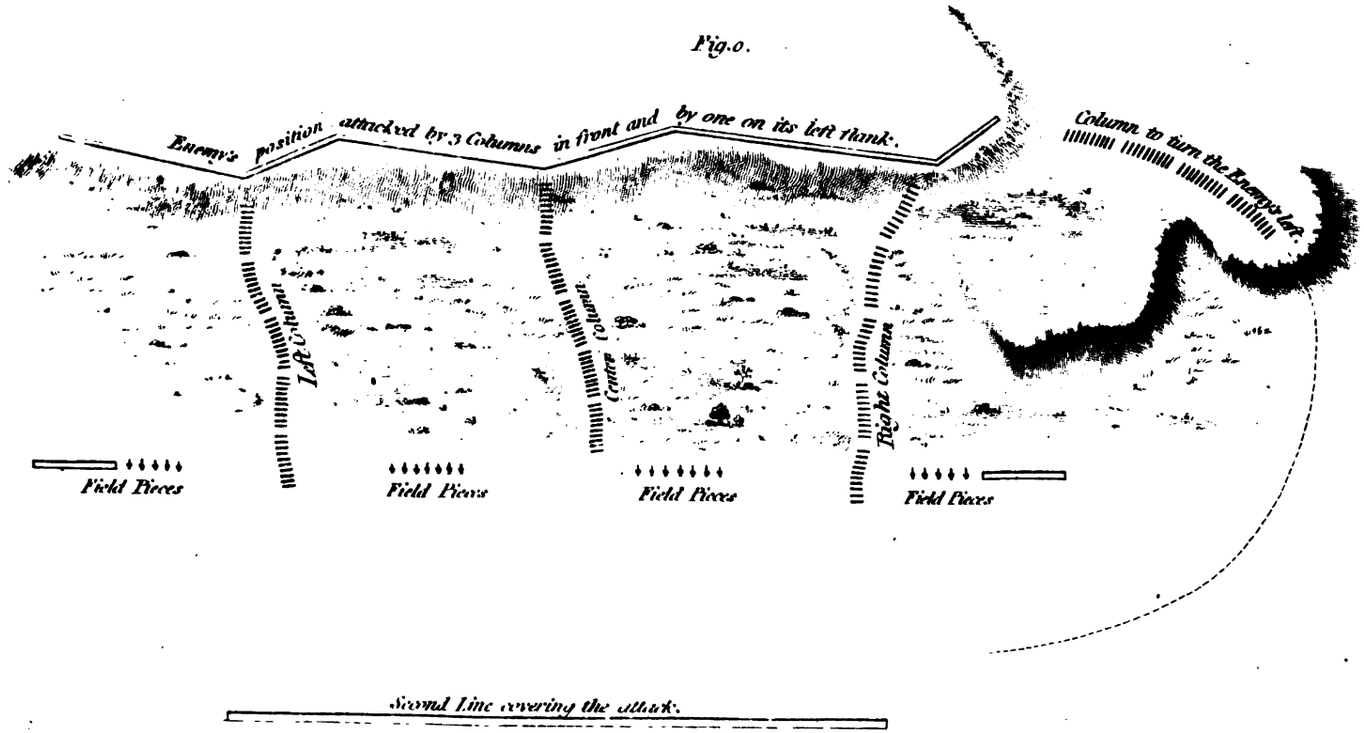


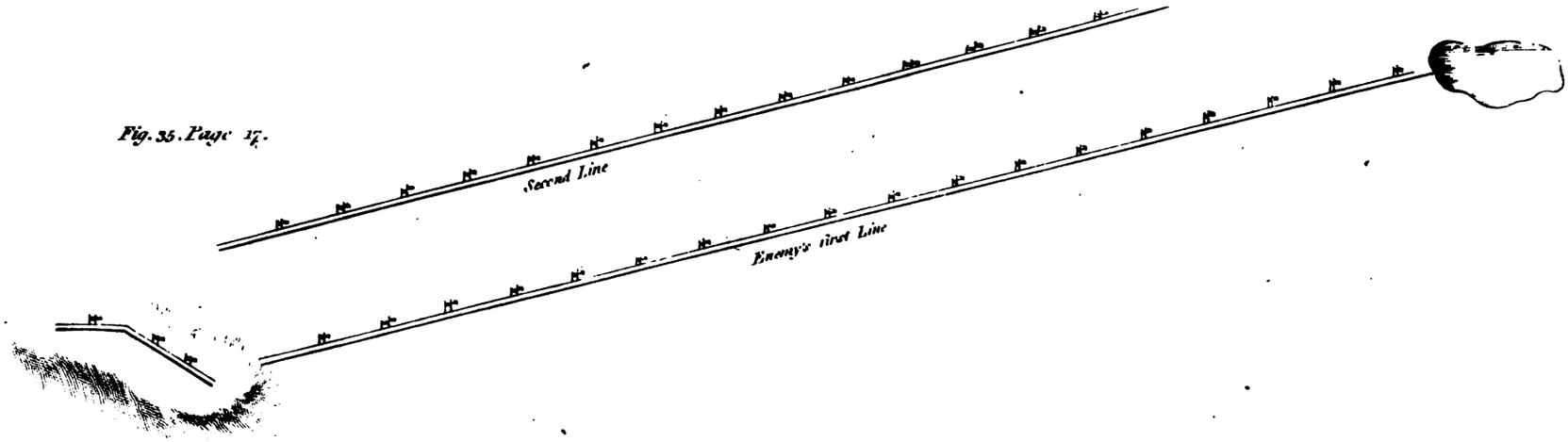
Fig.34.

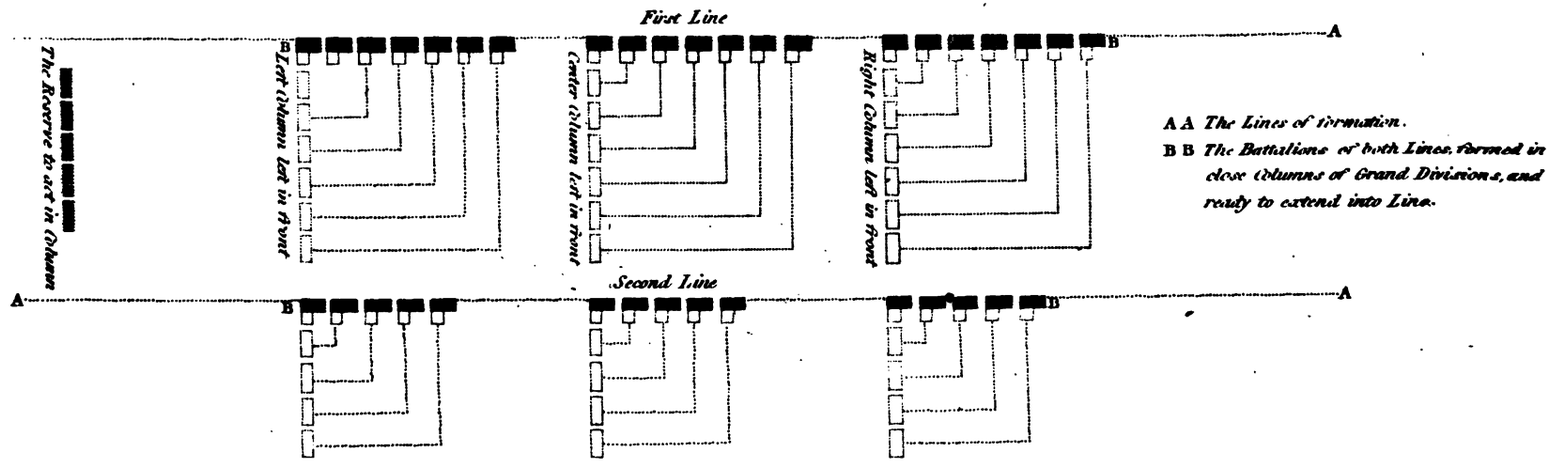
Fig. 6.



The figure shews an attack in broken ground where the Troops could not act in Line.
The field pieces drawn up between the Columns would not be useful in Night Attacks.

Fig. 35. Page 17.





The Figure shews 3 Columns forming in front of the Enemy, the dots represent how the 36 Battalions originally stood in the different Columns next, how they diverged, and lastly, how they ranged themselves in Mass near each other: from which they have doubled up into Grand Divisions at close order, and are ready to extend into Line; say on the first Division center Battalion of the left Column, all the Battalions to the right of that Division would face to the right, and all the residue to the left. The Battalions of the left Column first become moveable, and as they approach those of the center Column by extension, these move also, and then those of the first Column. The 2nd. Line deploys on such Division as will place it in its relative situation with the first Line, if the different Columns had originally been drawn so near each other, as to leave no unnecessary space between the Battalions of each, in that case, the whole would become moveable at the same instant. The Figure supposes the intention of the General to attack the Enemys right, whilst he as it is termed refuses his own.

Wade sculp Strand

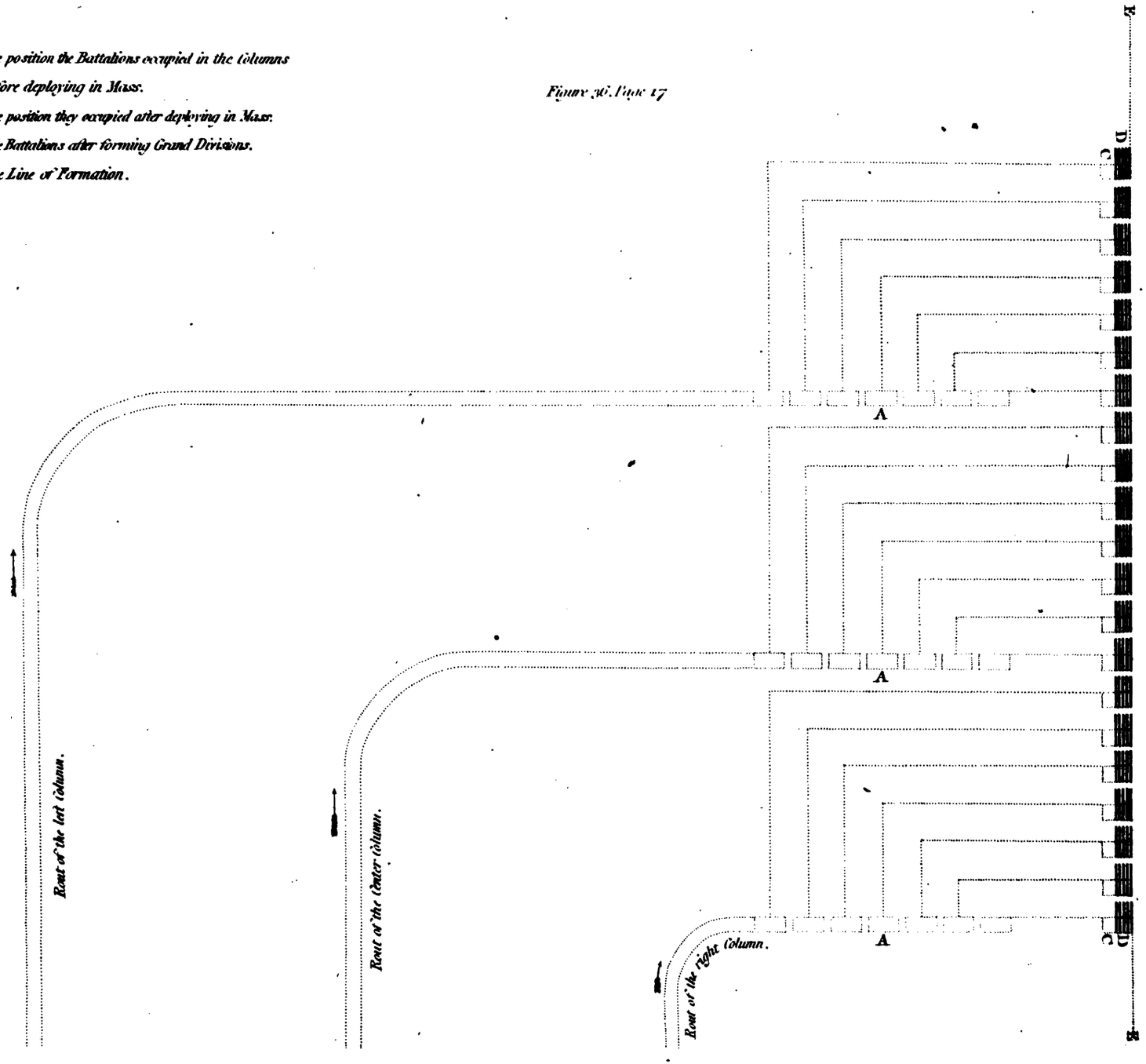
A A A *The position the Battalions occupied in the columns before deploying in Mass.*

C C *The position they occupied after deploying in Mass.*

D D *The Battalions after forming Grand Divisions.*

E E *The Line of Formation.*

Figure 30. Page 47



Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.

ture of the country to be paſſed over; as the heads of the different Columns approach in the vicinity of the enemy, they draw nearer each other, if before too much ſeparated; and their Diviſions move up to half or quarter diſtance. When arrived ſufficiently near for the deployment (generally within three quarters of a mile from their adverſary) the Line they are to form is marked out by the proper people; the heads of the Columns halt on the Line with their Flanks perpendicular to it, and their component parts move up into Cloſe Order. If the Columns are of greater magnitude than Six or Seven Battalions, they are ſubdivided before or after taking Cloſe Order, and more Columns are, of courſe, formed; care is taken to arrange the heads of the different Columns at no greater diſtance from each other than the Troops compriſing each will occupy when extended into Line; if the diſtances between them are not ſufficient for this purpoſe, it is of no importance, becauſe they deploy onwards till the different Battalions reach their relative poſitions. The whole next make the deployment from either Flank or Center, in the mode pointed out by the above Manœuvres.

The Second Line follows, in every thing, the operations of the Firſt, and deploys about 250 yards behind the other; or as a ſudden attack cannot be apprehended upon it, the Corps compoſing it may, for expedition ſake, break from the general Columns, and take up Line in the manner pointed out for a Central or Flank formation to the Front, in the Remarks on the Fourth Manœuvre. See Fig. 35.

If an Army advancing to the Front in Four, Five, or Six Columns, was to find it neceſſary to form Line facing to the Rear, the Columns compoſing the Second Line would paſs thoſe of the Firſt; the whole would then countermarch and proceed as before. The Two Lines at large would be inverted, but the Battalions, individually, would ſtand in their natural order; and the inverſion of the Lines, in great bodies, could not be obviated without a long and tedious operation which the preſs of the moment on actual ſervice would not admit of. If the Line, on a ſimilar occaſion, was to be formed to either Flank, the heads of the Columns would wheel towards ſuch Flank, advance, and place their leading Diviſions in the intended direction, and then proceed as before; or each Line would form a general Open Column of its component parts, and then wheel up, which would be the moſt expeditious mode; but as we are now on deployments we ſhall ſuppoſe the former to be done.

Fig. 36 ſhews the route of Three Columns advancing to the Front at quarter diſtance, with the view of extending into Line in that direction: a ſubſequent movement, however, of the enemy's renders it neceſſary to form to the Right: the Columns wheel their heads towards that Flank, halt them in a line with each other and move up to Cloſe order: if the line of formation was previouſly marked, the Columns might at once halt with their heads on it—but ſuppoſing this not completed, the Figure ſhews firſt by dots the Columns halted about 200 yards in its rear: on the ſignal to deploy in maſs, ſay on the leading Battalion of each Column, it next ſhews how all the others diverge from them; the leading Battalions move forward till their heads touch the line of formation; they then halt; and the others advance and arrange themſelves in contiguous Battalion Columns: they then double up to Columns of Two Companies, and are ready to form Line

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.

on any Diviſion, or to advance nearer the enemy, if this is thought ſafe, with a front of little more than one fifth of their extended one: till they begin to form Line the enemy cannot determine nor provide againſt the poſition they mean to take up; as four fifths of the whole may be thrown either way, or an oblique direction might be eaſily taken, by firſt arranging one Battalion Column in that direction, and the others gradually moving and placing themſelves in it. If the general Columns before deploying in maſs conſiſted of Two Companies in Front, in that caſe, as Grand Diviſions are already formed, the Battalions would only have to diverge Six Paces beyond each other. It is not to be underſtood, as the meaning of the above, that Armies always form themſelves in ſtraight general Lines. The poſition of the poſted Army will uſually follow the ſtrength of the ground, without any conſideration whether the Line ſo formed is ſtraight or crooked, and thoſe that aſſail will ſometimes attack in a general Line, and at other times different attacks will be made on different points combining with each other, and thoſe will be formed in Line or Column as circumſtances may require.

(Section 188.) Oblique Deployments of ſeveral Battalions occaſionally become requiſite to lengthen out a wing, &c. without there being time to place the Column of which they conſiſt perpendicular to the direction in which it is to extend. The Column will, in ſuch a caſe, deploy as a ſingle Battalion; the leading Diviſion is wheeled into the Line to be taken up; and the leaders of the others turn their bodies ſo as to take a direction parallel to the given one. The whole proceed, and the men glancing their eyes towards their reſpective leaders, and complying with their movements, gradually get into the ſquare direction. The Diviſions are halted at their relative diſtances, and form up as uſual. Such oblique deployments, however, cannot well be accurate, and are never to take place, if time will any way admit of placing the Column before-hand perpendicular to the intended formation, and of making the deployment in the regular way.

From the above, it appears that a Line of an Army may firſt form Battalion Columns; advance in that formation; halt, and again extend into Line: or it may form Columns of one or more Brigades each, or a general Column; move forward in theſe formations; halt; and again extend into Line: but where only a portion of an advancing Line forms Battalion Columns to paſs irregular grounds, the leading Diviſions of ſuch Battalion Columns do not halt (Section 150); they move on in uniſon with the general Line, and after the obſtacles are paſſed, the other Diviſions, facing to the pivot Flank, make a rapid deployment on them, during the march.

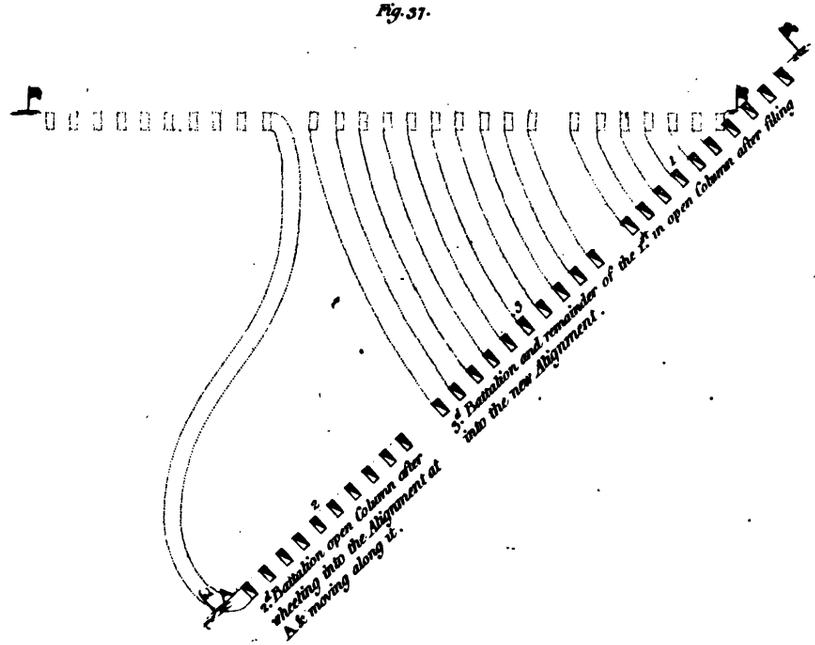
The above are the modes in which lines form their component parts into Cloſe Columns, and again extend; where a Line from a halted poſition means to advance to the front in any given number of Columns at Cloſe or quarter diſtance, the moſt ſimple mode of procedure would be to name the Company or Diviſion to lead each; the whole break into open Column; the named Diviſions lead to the front, followed by the others of their reſpective Columns: the leading Diviſions, after advancing a given diſtance, halt, and the others move forward into Cloſe Order or to quarter diſtance.

In deploying into Line, be the Army of what magnitude it may, the whole muſt be moveable, except one Grand Diviſion of one Battalion: the preceding Manœuvres, therefore, in deploying, repreſent the whole Brigade as moveable.

The Brigade proceeds to the Fourth Manœuvre.

FOURTH

Fig. 37.


2
2.d Battalion open Column after wheeling into the Alignment at A & moving along it.
3
3.d Battalion and remainder of the Lt in open Column after filing into the new Alignment.

FOURTH MANŒUVRE.

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
		The Fourth Manœuvre ſhews how a Line of an Army would enter a new Alignment, with its leading Battalions; halt theſe, and move the remaining ones into the new direction: or it might enter ſeparate Alignments by Brigades or larger Diviſions; halt their heads and form the remaining Corps of each in the new directions in the exact ſame way, and thus ſtand in ſeveral oblique Lines; but the former, as one Line, is much the moſt likely to be uſeful.
(Section 108.) Wheel into Column, Right in Front. -	Repeated. Companies on your Left backwards wheel.	
	Quick March. - -	The whole wheel back into Open Column.
(Section 111.) March. - - - - -	March. - - - - -	The whole move off. When they have advanced a given diſtance,
(Section 182.) Enter the new Alignment. - - - -	Repeated. - - -	By the Commandant of the Firſt Battalion. The leading Company of the Firſt Battalion receives the command—Right Shoulders Forward, and enters the Alignment. When the Brigadier ſees Three Companies, or more if he chuſes, in the Alignement
Halt. - - - - - -	Halt. - - - - - -	The whole halt.
(Section 182.) The remainder will form in the new Alignment. - -	Repeated.	
	Right Face. - - -	By the Commandants of the Firſt and Third Battalions.
	Right Wheel. - -	By the Commandant of the Second Battalion.
		The Brigadier allows a pauſe for the covering Serjeants of the Firſt and Third to take their diſtances.
Quick March. - -	Quick March. - -	The remaining Companies of the Firſt, and the whole of the Third Battalion file. The Second leads off in Quick Time, and proceeds in Open Column towards its Adjutant, round whom it wheels into the Alignment, and extends along it at Ordinary Time till its front Diviſion reaches its ſtation. See Fig. 37, which ſhews the Brigade in Open Column, with Three

 Companies

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
		Companies of the Firſt Battalion formed in the new Alignment; and behind theſe Three Companies is ſhewn, by dots, how the remainder of the Firſt, and the whole of the Third, file into Open Column in their rear; it is alſo ſhewn, by dots, how the Second leads in Column to its Right, at Quick Time, and enters the new Alignment at A; from whence it advances along it in Ordinary Time, till the Grenadiers or leading Diviſion comes within the due diſtance of the laſt Diviſion of the Third, and then halts; when the whole ſtand in Open Column in the new Alignment. If the Line conſiſted of Twenty more Battalions they would all enter the Alignment in the ſame way that the Second Battalion does.
Wheel into Line. -	By Companies to the Left wheel into Line. Quick March. - - -	When the Brigadier ſees the whole Brigade ſtanding in Open Column in the new Alignment, and ſteady, The whole wheel into Line, and ſtand as in Fig. 38.

Remarks on the Fourth Manœuvre.

The Fourth Manœuvre points out the mode in which the Line of an Army wheels into Open Column, advances to a Flank, enters a new Alignment with ſome of its front Diviſions or Battalions, then halts its head, and moves the remaining Battalions into it; thus forming a general Front oblique to the one it quitted.

When it is determined to enter a new Alignment, the neceſſary people are ſent forward to mark it out: one places himſelf at the point of entrance, another at a diſtance from him of 70 yards in the exact direction the Line is to run in; ſeveral others move on, and align themſelves with the above two, at a diſtance of 200 yards between each other; the leading Battalion wheels into the alignment at the point of entrance; the individual who marked ſuch point gallops forward and places himſelf 200 yards beyond the other markers: and thus do they relieve each other. The poſt at the point of entrance is ſupplied by the Adjutant of the leading Battalion, who remains there till his Corps has paſt; he is then relieved by the Adjutant of the next Corps, and ſo on, till the whole have entered; they are then ready to wheel into Line, and occupy the new poſition. If the intention, however, is to incamp, the neceſſary people are ſent forward before-hand with the Quarter-Maſter General, and inſtead of aligning themſelves, as above deſcribed, the neceſſary Colours are planted, diſtinguiſhing the different Brigades; their component Battalions; the parks of Artillery, &c. &c.

The Fourth Manœuvre is uſeful to an Army in ſhifting its poſition for a better, or in taking up an oblique Line for the purpoſe of attacking an enemy's Flank, &c. &c. In this laſt caſe, if the Column before entering the Alignment was moving parallel to, and near the enemy's Line (Section 186), and that ſeveral Battalions (ſay Four) were to enter the new direction before the head of the Column was to halt, which by creating conſiderable delay might make it dangerous to leave the rear Battalions of the Column ſo long parallel to, and near the enemy's Line; the different Battalions except the Two in front, ſo ſoon as the Firſt Diviſion of the Column entered the Alignment, would, in ſuch a caſe, all break from the general Column; the Third and Fourth would move at Quick Time along the reverſe Flank of the two firſt, and form in Cloſe Column beyond the point of entry, till it became their turn to follow: in the mean time all the rear Battalions move rapidly towards their different ſtations, marked by their Adjutants, at whom they would wheel into the Alignment, as before deſcribed: but the firſt mode, as pointed out by the

Fourth

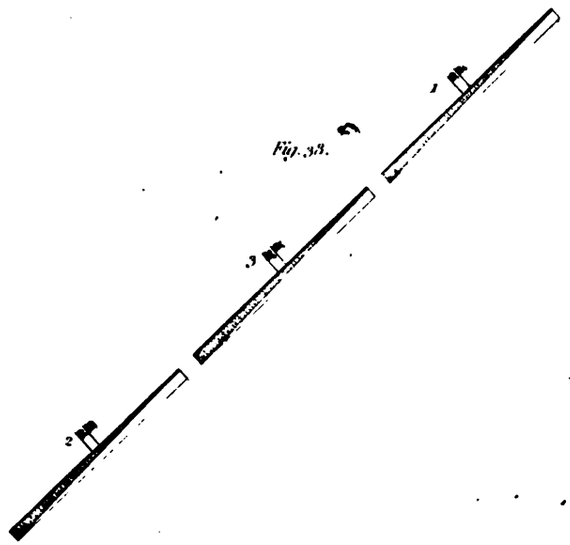


Fig. 38.

Fig. 30 Page 21.

Enemy's left Flank

A. The point where the prolongation of the old second Line intersects the new.

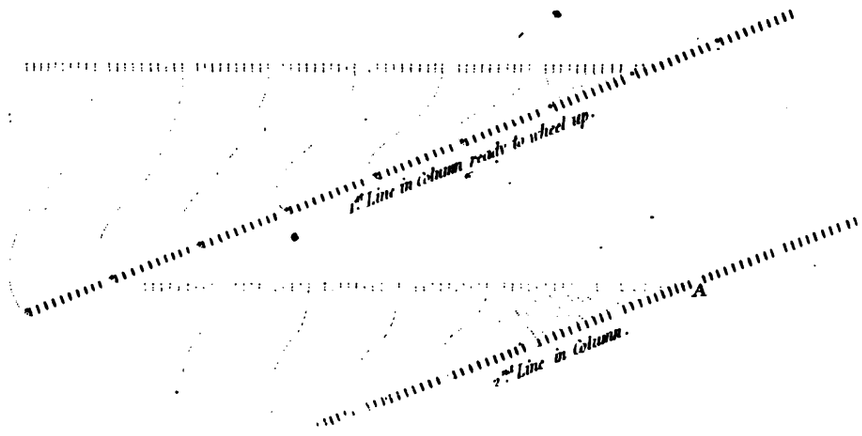
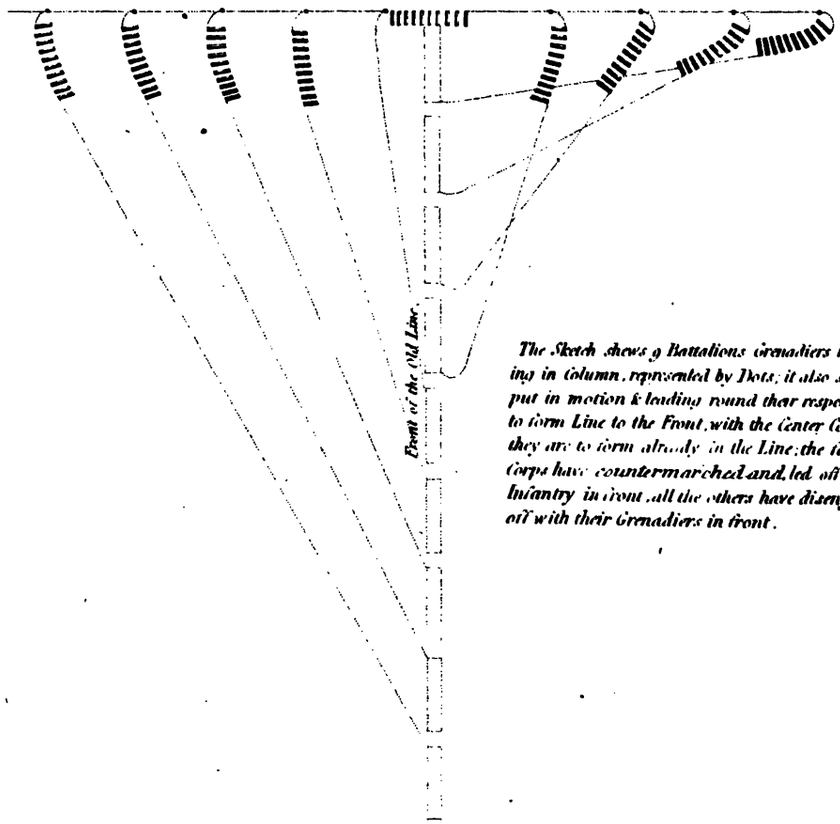


Fig 10

New Line formed to the Front.



The Sketch shews 9 Battalions Grenadiers in front standing in Column, represented by Dots; it also shews them put in motion & leading round their respective Adjutants to form Line to the Front, with the Center Corps, on whom they are to form already in the Line; the four right hand Corps have countermarched and led off with their light Infantry in front, all the others have disengaged, & led off with their Grenadiers in front.

Fourth Manœuvre itſelf, is the one generally to be followed. The Chief in command may, indeed, if he ſees fit, order ſuch Battalions as do not file in the firſt inſtance, to lead down in Open Column to the points where their reſpective front Diviſions are to ſtand; and then to halt, face, and file into the new Alignment; but entering at the points where their reſpective rear Diviſions are to ſtand by the Open Column, is pointed out as the moſt accurate. If the Grenadiers lead into the Alignment, the rear point will always be where the Light Infantry are to ſtand; and if the Light Infantry lead, it will always be where the Grenadiers are to ſtand.

Fig. 39 ſhews a Column of Nine Battalions; Two are already in the Alignment, except the laſt Companies of the Second, which, with the Third, file into it; the remaining Six lead in Open Columns to their Right Flank, and wheel into it at the points marked by their reſpective Adjutants. Section 182.

Commanding Officers of Battalions will always lead with the Right or Left in front, ſo as to prevent a countermarch after they have entered the Alignement, which is not to be admitted of. If a Line is to be taken up to the front upon a central Corps, in that caſe, both Flanks of that central Corps would be marked (Section 181); and the Adjutants of the Battalions who were to be on the Right of that Corps would mark where their Grenadiers were to ſtand; while the Adjutants on the Left of it, would mark where their Light Infantry Companies were to ſtand; of courſe, the Battalions on the Right would enter the Alignment with their Light Infantry in front; and thoſe on the Left, with their Grenadiers in front. Fig. 40, ſhews the Center Battalion formed, and the others moving round their Adjutants; a ſimilar formation might commence from a Flank Battalion, and indeed is the uſual way in which ſuch formations are made.

By this mode, Lines in all directions may be formed, either from Open or Cloſe Columns; the Alignment is marked out by the proper people; and each Adjutant in taking ground for his Battalion allows alſo for the ſpace between it, and the preceding Corps. If the Battalions approach the Alignment in Cloſe Columns, they will extend into Open Order on the march, or as they wheel into it. The Commanding Officer of each, when he ſees the whole of his Diviſions within the Alignment, will order a halt, and after dreſſing his pivots on his Adjutant, is ready to wheel into Line, ſo ſoon as the ſucceeding Corps has Three Diviſions or more halted, and correctly ſtanding in the new direction.

This is perhaps the moſt expeditious method by which an Army makes its changes of poſition, and at the ſame time the moſt ſimple; but the Regulations ſay it has the drawback that the Adjutants will not always be accurate in their diſtances, which in ſome caſes may not eaſily be remedied, nor is it conſidered ſafe when an attack may be expected during the Evolution.

The deployment, as deſcribed by the Three Firſt Manœuvres, in forming Line to the Front, and the Echellon movement in other inſtances, are pointed out by the Regulations as the beſt modes of taking up Lines or changing their directions in the face of an Enemy, becauſe the Troops are in a better ſituation to make reſiſtance, if attacked, while they are performing the Evolution.

FIFTH MANŒUVRE.

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.

To get a very accurate knowledge of the Echellon formations, which the Regulations point out as extremely eſſential, it may be neceſſary before beginning with them, to take ſome notice of the circle on the principles of which theſe movements are entirely formed. Every one knows that lines drawn from the center to the circumference of a circle, produce angles equal to 360 degrees. The Regulations, as is the caſe in the Mariner's Compaſs, divide the circle into 32 equal parts, each of which contains 11¼ degrees; 33 inches is the extent of the wheeling pace. If a Diviſion conſiſting of Eight Files, each of which meaſures 22 inches, or 14 feet 8 inches in the whole, is wheeled on one of its Flanks all round the circle, ſo that it again comes back to the exact poſition quitted, it will appear, upon calculation, that the exterior or the Eighth File in wheeling all round the circle takes exactly 32 ſteps, each meaſuring 33 inches; for the front of the Diviſion is half the diameter, and 3 diameters are equal to the circumference; hence it evidently follows that every 33 inches which the Eighth File from the ſtanding Flank gains on the circumference of the circle, above deſcribed, is equal to 11¼ degrees; ſo that if a Serjeant placing himſelf before the Eighth File from the ſtanding Flank, either of the Diviſion above-mentioned, or before the Eighth File from the ſtanding Flank of a whole Line, takes any given number of paces of 33 inches, following the circumference juſt deſcribed, and the Diviſion or Line is afterwards wheeled forward on ſuch ſtanding Flank till the Eighth File again touches the Serjeant, every ſtep he has taken will change the direction of the Line 11¼ degrees; conſequently if he has taken Four, the new Line will form, with the one quitted, an angle of 45; if Eight, the new Line will form, with the one quitted, an angle of 90 degrees, or the quarter circle. After this explanation, it at once appears, why the Eighth File is fixed on for the Serjeant to meaſure his diſtance from, and whether the Regulations mention the $\frac{2}{16}$, the $\frac{3}{16}$, the quarter circle, or the angle which the new line makes with the old, we at once comprehend the meaning. The Figure 41 ſhews a circle whoſe half diameter is equal to the front of Eight Files, or 14 feet 8 inches; the circle is cut into four quarters, and one quarter again divided into eight parts; each part at the circumference of the circle is equal to a pace of 33 inches, and forms an angle of 11¼ degrees; the letter o denotes the paces of the Serjeant from the baſe line A B, with the angle and exact direction each pace gives the wheeling body. The lines extended beyond the circumference of the circle are meant to denote that it matters not what is the ſize of the Diviſion or Line that is wheeled provided the pace is taken from oppoſite the Eighth File; for whether it is 24 men or 24,000 that are wheeled, the direction and angle remain the ſame.

There is ſtill another point to be noticed before a preciſe knowledge can be had of Echellon formations;

Page 22.

Fig. 41.

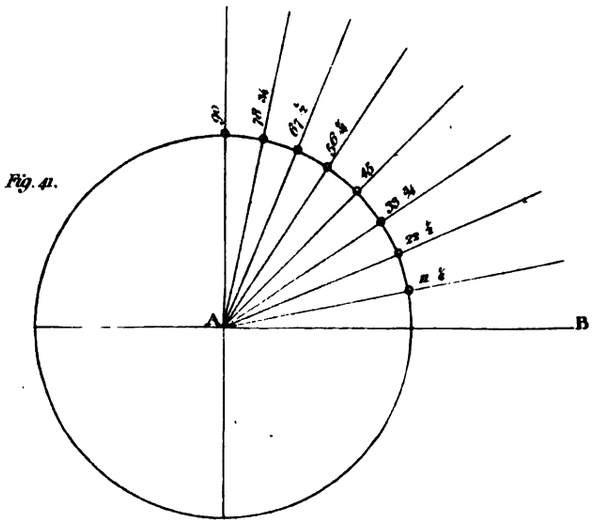
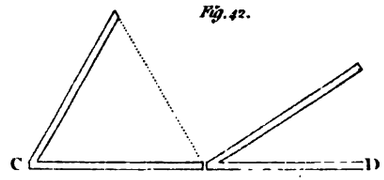
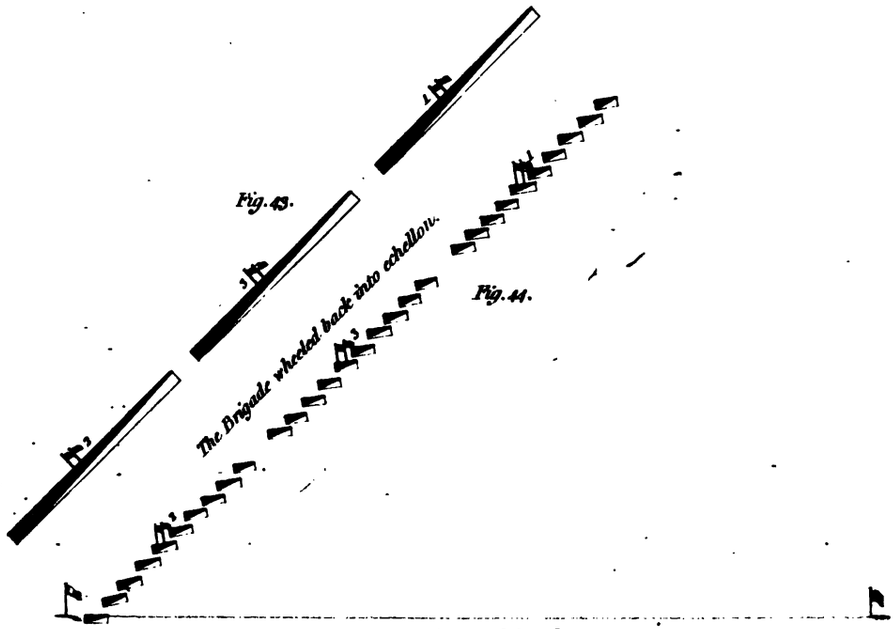


Fig. 42.





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Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	General Explanations.
		formations; and that is, placing the Diviſions perpendicular to their lines of march, which is uniformly to be done: let Two Diviſions be drawn up in line with each other, as in Fig. 42, let the firſt be wheeled ſix paces or equal to an angle of 67½; and let the Second be wheeled on the ſame Flank three paces or equal to an angle of 33¾: draw a line from the wheeling Flank of the firſt to the ſtanding Flank of the ſecond; and ſuch line will be a perpendicular to the new poſition of the ſecond; of courſe, was the ſecond to move forward into Line with the firſt, it could advance in a perpendicular direction; that is, with the bodies of the men ſquare to the front; which could not have happened had the Second Diviſion wheeled more or leſs than three paces. This is what is called placing a Diviſion perpendicular to its line of march; and in this way may the exact perpendicular poſition of the Diviſions be, at all times aſcertained, whether taken from Line or Column. See Fig. 42. By the Fourth Manœuvre the Brigade was left ſtanding in an oblique Line. See Fig. 43. This Line is thrown back to its original direction by the Fifth Manœuvre.
(Sect. 210, 195, 160, 162.) The Light Infantry of the Second Battalion will wheel back four paces on its Left, and Line will be formed on it by the Echellon of Companies. -	Repeated. - - - - -	The Light Infantry, Second Battalion, is wheeled into the new Line. Whatever number of paces the named Company wheels from Line into Echellon, all the others will wheel juſt half the number.
	Companies, Two Paces on the Left Backwards wheel.	
	Quick March. - -	The whole wheel back. The Light Infantry, Second Battalion, has wheeled four paces, and all the other Companies two paces. See Fig. 44.
About Face. - - -	About Face. - - -	The whole face about, except the Light Infantry of the Second.
March. - - - -	March. - - - -	The whole move to the rear in Echellon, except the Light Infantry of the Second, which, as before deſcribed, is already in the alignment. As each Company or Diviſion of the Second Battalion approaches within a few paces of the line to be formed, its Officer ſays—Left Shoulders Forward; the man next him by throwing forward his left ſhoulder and the others by dreſſing up to him, bring the Diviſion in a line with the new formation. The Officer then ſays—Halt, Front, Dreſs; in this manner the different Companies form between their Light Infantry and the Colour on their Right. When the Light Infantry of the Third Battalion reaches the point in the Line where it is to form, the Adjutant of the Battalion, who marks ſuch point, halts, fronts, and wheels it back two paces on the Left, (unleſs the Commanding Officer chuſes to do it himſelf) which brings it in the ſame direction with the Light Infantry of the Second; the different Companies

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
		panies of the Third, form on the Right of their Light Infantry, in the ſame way as the Companies of the Second did upon the Light Infantry of that Corps. When the Light Infantry of the Firſt reaches its point of formation, it is halted, fronted, and wheeled back two paces on its Left, as before deſcribed; this muſt be done as quick as poſſible, ſo as not to impede the other diviſions of the Corps who move up and form between it and the Colour thrown out on the Right of the Brigade, as detailed for the Second and Third Battalions. The Brigade is again in Line in the ſame direction with that it firſt occupied. Fig. 45.

Remarks on the Fifth Manœuvre.

By the above modes not only is a Brigade thrown back upon a Flank, but a Line of any dimenſions. This Manœuvre ſhews how an Army ſtanding in Line would throw back ſuch Line or any part of it on a given Diviſion, by the oblique Echellon: in the ſame exact way would an Army, ſtanding in an oblique Echellon of Brigades or larger Diviſions, throw theſe back into a general Line. The Diviſions of the Echellon might be of any ſtrength where large bodies are to be moved from Companies to ſeveral Battalions; but in all oblique movements the Echellon of Companies, or at moſt of Grand Diviſions, will be found to anſwer beſt: upon this head more will be noticed under Manœuvres Ninth, Tenth, and Thirteenth.

The Fifth Manœuvre may be exemplified in the following way:—Suppoſe the Line of an Army extending in any given direction—an Enemy threatens its Right Flank, which is in riſk of being turned, and therefore there is an indiſpenſable neceſſity of throwing it back to a better poſition. The Commander foreſees the Troops will probably be attacked during the Evolution, on which account he determines to make the change by the Echellon march in preference to the Open Column. The Diviſion on which the formation is to take place, is formed in the new Line, and all the others to be thrown back, wheel into Echellon, face to the right about, and proceed as deſcribed in the Manœuvre. If attacked by the Enemy's cavalry or advanced troops before gaining the intended poſition, ſuch Corps front, and wheel forward on their pivot Flanks into Line. Any Line which can be gained to repel an attack in the middle of an evolution is deſirable indeed: and in the facility with which this may be done from Echellon, conſiſts the great merit of that movement. If the enemy is repulſed, the Diviſions again wheel into Echellon, face to the right about, and complete the formation.

In this inſtance the whole Lines are thrown back, but it will frequently occur that only a portion is moved to the rear, however an angle will, when this happens, be formed ſalient towards the Enemy, great care therefore ſhould be taken to ſelect ſuch part of the firſt Line for the wheeling point or angle, where the ground in front is ſtrong, and if poſſible, affords cover, otherwiſe the Enemy will next move upon the angle, and if unprotected, will bring ſuch a fire to bear upon it as will make it very difficult for the Troops to ſtand their ground.

In the above evolution the Second Line could not gain its new poſition by the ſame mode pointed out for the Firſt Line; relative points would therefore be taken as a baſe of formation for the new Second Line, and prolonged: that Line would break into Open Column, Left in front; and ſo ſoon as the head or leading Diviſion entered the new poſition, all the Corps, except ſuch as found it their neareſt route to follow ſuch head or leading Diviſion, would break from the general Column, and enter at the points marked by their Adjutants. See Fig. 46.

The Brigade is in Line, as above-mentioned, and proceeds to the Sixth Manœuvre.

SIXTH

Fig. 45

Front of the Line

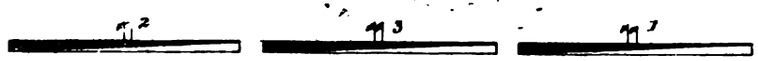
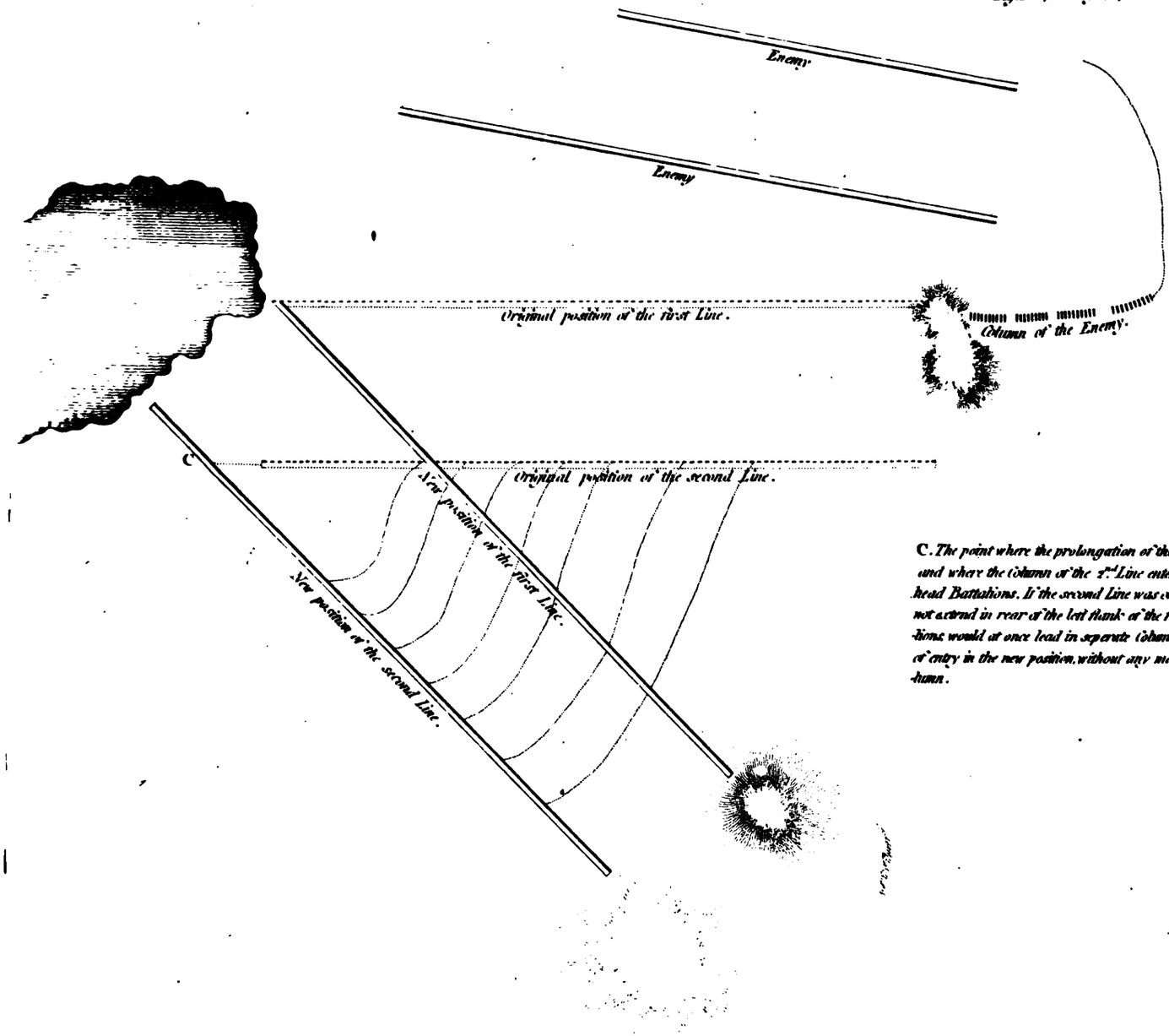


Figure 46. Page 24.



C. *The point where the prolongation of the old Line intersects the new, and where the Column of the 1st Line enters the new position with its head Battalions. If the second Line was of less magnitude and did not extend in rear of the left flank of the first, in that case its Battalions would at once lead in separate Columns to their respective points of entry in the new position, without any movement in a general Column.*

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Fig. 47.

Brigade in open Column, Grenadiers in front.

Fig. 48.

The Brigade with Light Infantry in front after countermarching

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Fig. 49.

Brigade in close Column of Companies Light Infantry in front

SIXTH MANŒUVRE.

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
		This Manœuvre can only be performed in one way, without inverting the order of the Battalions.
Wheel into Column, Right in front. -	Repeated.	
	By Companies, on the Left, backwards wheel.	
	Quick March. - -	The whole wheel back on the Left, and ſtand in open Column of Companies, Right or Grenadiers in front. Fig. 47.
(Section 100.) Countermarch by Files from the Right of Companies. - -	Repeated.	
	Right Face.	
	To the Right, countermarch.	
	Quick, March. - -	The whole Companies face to the Right and Countermarch, ſo that the Brigade is now in open Column of Companies, with its Left or Light Infantry in front, inſtead of the Grenadiers or Right in front. Fig. 48.
March. - - - - -	March. - - - - -	The whole Column moves on as far as the Brigadier thinks proper.
Halt. - - - - - -	Halt. - - - - - -	The whole Halt.
(Section 187.) Cloſe to the Front. -	Cloſe to the Front.	
Quick March. - -	Quick March. - -	The Light Infantry of the Second Battalion ſtands faſt; and all the other Companies of the Brigade move up into Cloſe Order behind it. The Brigade is now formed in a Cloſe Column with the Left or Light Infantry in front, three paces being allowed between each Battalion Column. Fig. 49.
		The following part of the Sixth Manœuvre is the Solid Square: the Regulations no where mention that it is ever formed by a larger body than a ſingle Battalion: the Compiler of this work does not, therefore, think himſelf authoriſed to detail how it might be performed by a Brigade or larger body.

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	General Explanations.
		The Brigade is in Close Column, and proceeds to the next part of the Sixth Manœuvre; which is, to extend into Open Order from the Rear.
(Section 153.) Open from the Rear. March. - - - - -	Open from the Rear. March. - - - - -	The whole move on at Ordinary Time, except the Grenadiers of the First Battalion; the Captain of which, so soon as he sees the Company before him has got to its proper distance at Open Order, says, "First Company—Halt:" The Captain of the First Company, when he sees the Second Company has gained its proper distance, says, "Second Company—Halt: each Captain, in like manner, halts the Company before him, till the whole Divisions of the First are in Open Column. The Commandant of the Third halts his Grenadiers at their due distance, and the Captains of that Corps proceed in halting the Companies of it, as pointed out for those of the First. In like manner do those of the Second proceed, after its Grenadiers are halted by its Commandant: thus the whole Brigade extends into Open Column, and stands as in Fig. 50. The Light Infantry Company which leads the Column in opening out has some object to march on so as to keep in a direct line. The Brigade is standing in Open Column, with its Left or Light Infantry in front. The next part of the Sixth Manœuvre is to throw its Right or Grenadiers in front.
(Section 99, 101.) Right Wing to the Front. - - - - -	Right Wing to the Front. - - - - -	By the Commandant of the First Battalion. This order not to be repeated by the other Commandants till their respective Corps are ready to move. The Captain of Grenadiers, First Battalion, says "Grenadiers—Left Face, Quick March." They face and move to the Left till clear of the Column, when their Captain says, "Halt, Front, March." The Company halts, fronts, and moves on towards the head of the Column: when nearly in a line with the First Company its Captain says, "Company—Quick March," he having previously faced it to the Left. The First Company moves in the Rear of the Grenadiers, when it halts, fronts, and proceeds at its proper distance behind the Grenadiers. When the First Company comes nearly in a line with the Second Company, but rather past it, this Company moves in rear of the First, in the manner before described, fronts, and advances in rear of the other two. All the other Companies of the Brigade do the same as it comes to their turn, till the whole are moving in one Column, with the Right or Grenadiers in front. Fig. 51 shews the Brigade bringing the Right Wing to the front: the whole of the First Battalion is represented as moving towards the head of the Column, as are the Grenadiers of the Third; and the First Company of the Third is moving to the Left to come in their rear. The whole Column having countermarched moves on, till ordered to halt.
Halt. - - - - -	Halt. - - - - -	When the Brigadier thinks the Column has advanced enough The whole halt and stand in Open Column, Right in front.

When

Fig. 50.

The Brigade extended into open Column, Light Infantry in Front

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Fig. 51.

Open Column of the Brigade bringing its right wing to the Front.

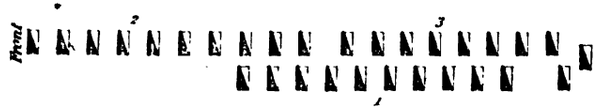
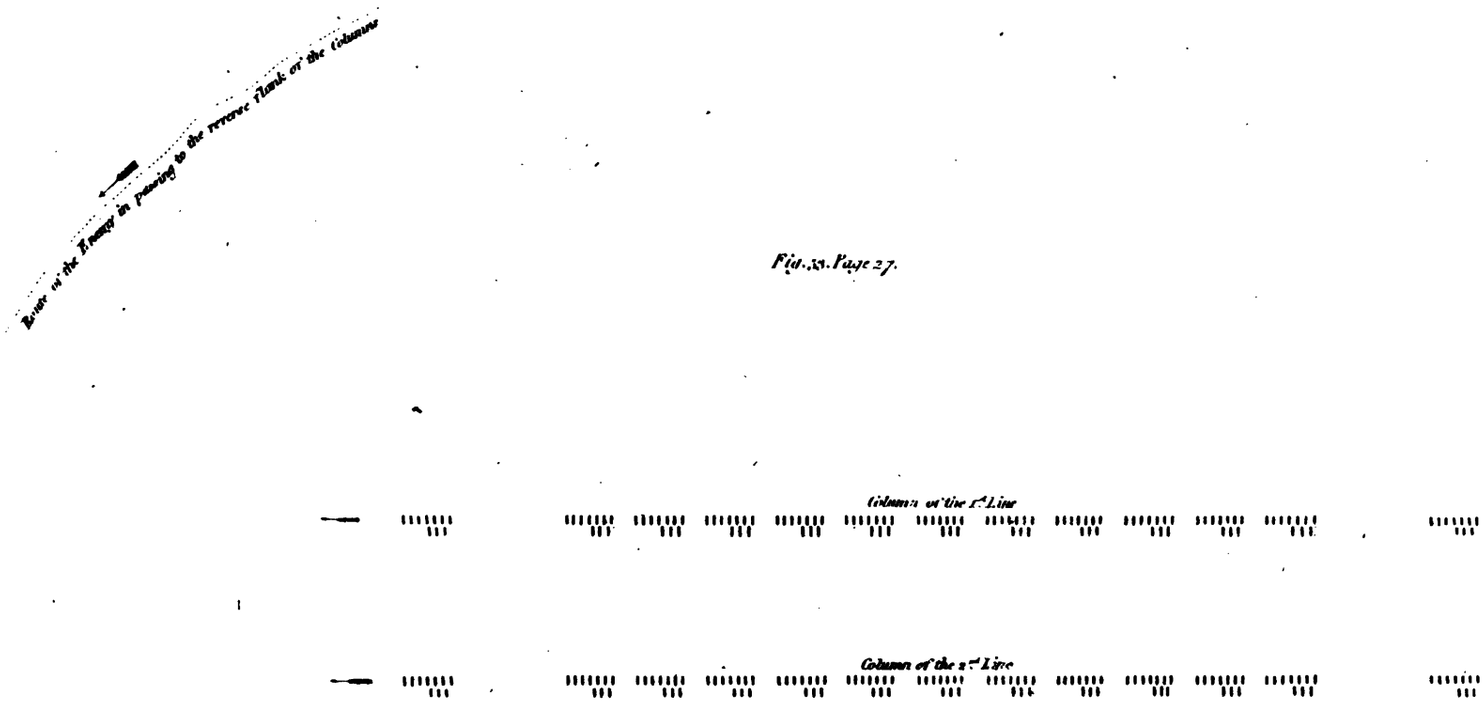


Fig. 2. Page 27.



The Sketch shews 2 Columns leading with the last and their respective Battalions bringing their right Wings to the front.
Their advanced and rear Guards are doing the same.

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
Wheel into Line. -	To the Left wheel into Line.	When the Brigadier ſees the Pivots corrected, and all ſteady
	Quick March. - -	The whole wheel into Line on the Left, and ſtand in the ſame direction the Line had at the beginning of the Manœuvres, but fronted towards what was then the Rear. Fig. 52.

Remarks on the Sixth Manœuvre.

Here ends the Sixth Manœuvre, in which has been pointed out how a Brigade or Line of an Army wheels into Open Column, Right in front, and by a countermarch of Companies brings the Left of the Column in front; how an Open Column of any dimenſions cloſes up into Cloſe Column; extends into Open Order; changes its head by bringing what was before the Rear, to the Front; and by wheeling upon the Left into Line, fronts towards the oppoſite direction which the Line had at the beginning of the Evolution.

The Sixth Manœuvre elucidates ſeveral circumſtances very eſſential in the Formations and Tactics of Armies:—Firſt, it ſhews how Columns of an Army, finding a neceſſity of forming Line in the oppoſite direction to which they are marching, change their Front by the countermarch of Companies. Secondly, it ſhews how Columns of march take Cloſe Order, preparatory to a deployment into Line. Thirdly, it points out how one or more Cloſe Columns of an Army extend from the Rear into Open Order, for the purpoſe of continuing the march or making front to a Flank; and if to form Line to a Flank, ſuch extenſion may take place both ways at once, by facing outwards from whichever central Diviſion it is foreſeen will beſt cover the ground the Line is meant to run over; ſuch central Company ſtands faſt; the Diviſion immediately in rear of it will be halted by the Commanding Officer of its Battalion; all the others are halted, as ſhewn by the Manœuvre. The laſt part of this Manœuvre, ſhewing how Open Columns of an Army countermarch from rear to the front, is alſo very eſſential.

It is a conſtant rule on ſervice, in the vicinity of an enemy, that when an Army moves in Columns of march to a Flank, the Battalions compoſing the Column or Columns, lead with the Right in front, if the Enemy is expected on the Left; and with the Left in front, if he is expected on the Right;—thus keeping that Flank towards the Enemy which, when wheeled to, places their Diviſions in their natural order of battle. Suppoſe an Army moving to a Flank in Two Columns conſiſting of the Firſt and Second Lines, with the Left in front, expecting the Enemy on the Right; intelligence however is received that he has made a movement by which he has croſſed the intended route, and may now be looked for on the Left: was the Army to proceed in its preſent order, and afterwards to form to the Left to oppoſe him, the Second Line would be in front inſtead of the rear; and the Army with all its Diviſions would be inverted. The Columns therefore halt; and countermarch, by bringing the rear to the front: they then face inwards, and file through each other to their new poſitions (Section 192): or the Column of the Second Line is reinforced by a part of the Firſt; and the whole again move forward, ready to wheel to the Left into Line in their natural order of battle. In Armies of great magnitude ſuch a countermarch might produce too much delay; in which caſe, the individual Battalions or Brigades would be ordered to make it ſeparately within themſelves (ſee Fig. 53); ſo that when the Army came to wheel to the Left into Line, the Battalions or Brigades, within themſelves, would be in their natural order, though the Line, at large, would be inverted: ſuch inverſion muſt frequently occur in great bodies, where the delay or riſk of rectifying it more than counterbalances the importance of the object.

Theſe laſt remarks would apply to an Army of any ſize, if an Enemy unexpectedly made his appearance on the reverſe Flank; for time, circumſtances

cumſtances of ground, or the riſk of being attacked during the Evolution, would, in all probability, prevent a general countermarch from front to rear:—indeed, was his attack very ſudden, there would be no alternative but to wheel upon the reverſe Flank into Line, and oppoſe with the rear ranks in front. However, as the formations of one Army uſually keep pace with thoſe of the other, it is reaſonable to ſuppoſe, that the danger would be ſeen at a ſufficient diſtance for the different Battalions or Brigades to countermarch ſeparately; by which the moſt material point would be gained.

If an Army (Section 194) was moving to a Flank in Columns of Lines, that is, in One Column conſiſting of its Firſt Line, and One Column conſiſting of its Second Line, leading with the Left, and expecting the Enemy on the Right; but inſtead of finding him there, he makes his appearance at the head of the Columns; ſo that it becomes neceſſary to form Line to the then front: in that caſe, to ſave time, the new Lines would be formed each of parts of the old ones. They might be taken up by the Echellon or Open Column; or the Two Columns would cloſe to the front; a certain number of the front Brigades of each would be directed to deploy as a firſt line; and the reſidue of each Column would extend themſelves behind as a ſecond line.

In the various evolutions exemplified by the ſixth Manœuvre, the ſecond Line of an Army would follow, in all its movements, the ſame exact procedure obſerved by the firſt Line. If both Lines moved in one Column, when the firſt formed for battle, the ſecond would of courſe move to its poſition in the rear.

The Brigade is in Line, facing towards the former rear. Fig. 54.

SEVENTH

Plate 31. Page 28.

Fig. 85 Page 29.

The Brigade countermarching by Companies on its Center.

Fig. 36. Page 29

SEVENTH MANŒUVRE.

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
		This Manœuvre, like the preceding, can only be performed in one way, without inverting the order of the Battalions; and though a ſingle Battalion may countermarch by Files, larger bodies do it by Diviſions. Section 99.
(Section 99.) The Line will countermarch by Companies on its Center. - -	Repeated. - - -	The Right Center Company, Third Battalion, countermarches with the Colours.
	About Face. - - -	By the Commandant of the Third Battalion to his Right Wing, and by the Commandant of the Firſt Battalion to his whole Corps, of courſe the Right Wing of the Third, and the whole of the Firſt, face about.
	Companies — Inwards wheel. - - -	By the Commandants of the Three Battalions.
	Quick March. - -	The whole wheel into Column, facing towards the named Company.
		The Brigade will now ſtand as in Fig. 55, with the Fourth Company of the Third Battalion fronted towards what was the rear at the beginning of the evolution, and all the other Companies of the Brigade wheeled into Column, inwards, and facing towards it.
March. - - - - -	March. - - - - -	They paſs in front and rear of the Fourth Company, Third Battalion, and wheel into Line ſucceſſively on its Right and Left, by command of their reſpective Captains. The Company on which the countermarch takes place is always previouſly named, and placed with its front to what was the rear.
		The Colours of the Third Battalion countermarch with the Fourth Company, and ſtand as a central point to form on. The Line is prolonged by the ſucceſſive wheels of the different Companies in the ſame direction it before run; only, that what was before the rear, now becomes the front; what was before the ſpot occupied by the Firſt Battalion, is now the one occupied by the Second; and the whole Brigade ſtands fronted in the direction it had at the beginning of the Manœuvres, Fig. 56. Was the Brigade to countermarch, each Battalion within itſelf on its own center, they might do it by Files, agreeable to the principles laid down in the Sixth Manœuvre for the ſingle Battalion. The Brigade would, by this means, at large be inverted, though the Diviſions of the different Corps would within themſelves ſtand in their natural order. If to obviate this inverſion, the whole Brigade, as above pointed out, makes a countermarch upon one point as a general center, it would do ſo by Companies or Subdiviſions: for though a ſingle Battalion may do it by Files, larger bodies do it in Column. The Tactics of the Line cannot be reduced to thoſe of

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
		of the Battalion in every inſtance; and theſe point out in Section 99 that larger bodies than the ſingle Battalion are to countermarch by Columns of Companies or Subdiviſions, and not by Files.

Remarks on the Seventh Manœuvre.

By the Seventh Manœuvre, which is now finiſhed, has been ſhewn the mode in which a Brigade or Line of any dimenſions countermarches on its center, and thereby fronts in the oppoſite direction to what it did before. This Evolution, as well as the preceding one the Sixth, can only be performed by a Brigade or larger body in one way, without inverting the Line: for was each Corps to countermarch individually within itſelf, the Battalions on forming Line would have their proper rank in front; but the Line at large, as ſaid before, would be inverted; that is, the Right or Firſt Battalion would be on the Left of the Line; and the Left or Second on the Right of the Line. It is not to be inferred, that in actual ſervice the Line never is inverted; this often happens, though the individual Battalions or Brigades by a countermarch ſtand within themſelves in their natural order; and circumſtances may occur, as before obſerved, where not only the Line, but the individual Corps will be ſo; however, generally ſpeaking, it is contrary to the principles of Tactic.

The uſes to which an Army applies the Seventh Manœuvre are as follows: Suppoſe a Line, fronting in a given direction, is required to front towards its then rear: if there was no apprehenſion of an attack during the Evolution, the whole would countermarch, as pointed out by this Manœuvre. If a Line was ſuddenly attacked in the rear, it would, through neceſſity, face to the right about, and defend itſelf, though the rear rank would thus be in front. But if the danger was ſeen at ſome diſtance, as is the likely concluſion, the individual Battalions or Brigades would countermarch ſeparately; by which they would ſtand in regular order within themſelves, though the Line at large would be inverted (ſee Fig. 57.) A general countermarch of a conſiderable Line, ſo as to throw its Right where its Left was, and its Left where its Right was, could ſcarcely be ventured on in the face of an Enemy: but whether done generally by the whole Line at once, or ſeparately by its component parts, the Seventh Manœuvre points out the mode of performance.

In this Manœuvre, as in the preceding, the Second Line would countermarch in the ſame way preſcribed for the Firſt; after which, the Lines would paſs through each other to their relative poſitions (ſee paſſage of Lines); or the Second Line, which is uſually the weakeſt, would be reinforced by a part of the Firſt.

The Brigade, having finiſhed the Seventh Manœuvre, is ſtanding in Line with its original front.

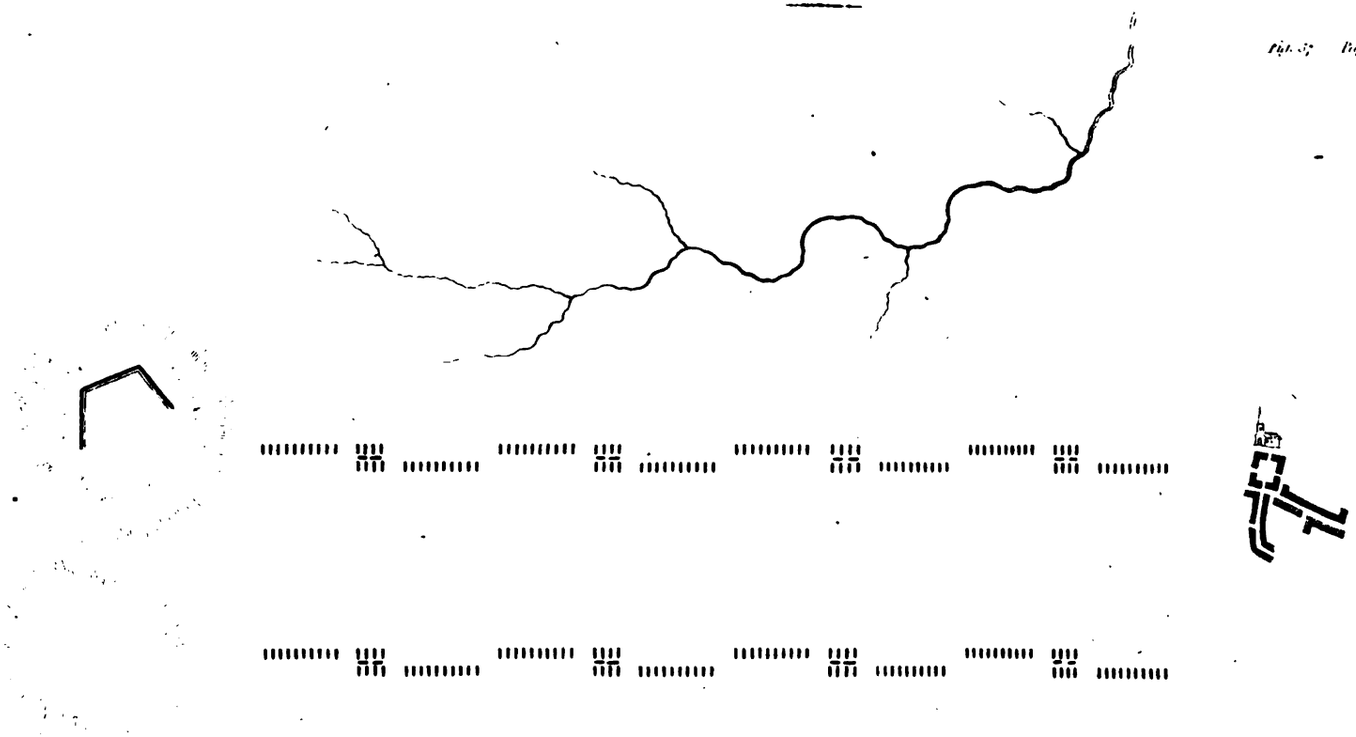


Fig. 57 Page 300.

Direction of the Enemy

The Fig. shews 2 Lines countermarching by Brigades in order to front towards the former rear.

EIGHTH MANŒUVRE.

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
		This Evolution may be performed in ſeveral ways by a Line of an Army: Firſt, by each Battalion forming an Open Column in rear of its reſpective Light Infantry, and the whole advancing in Battalion Columns. Secondly, by forming Open Columns of Brigades or larger bodies, and advancing in that form. Thirdly, by forming one general Column in rear of the Light Infantry of the Left Battalion, and advancing in that order; the laſt is the one moſt likely to be uſeful. Suppoſing the firſt to be done, the common Battalion practice would be followed by each Corps. If one general Open Column is to be taken up or larger ones than the ſingle Battalion, they are formed as hereafter detailed.
(Section 183.) Form Open Column in Rear of the Light Infantry of the Second Battalion. - - -	Repeated. Companies—On your Right, backwards wheel.	
	Quick March. - -	The Commandant of the Second Battalion cautions his Light Infantry that they are to ſtand faſt: all the reſt of the Brigade wheels back by Companies on their Right into Open Column; which brings their front towards the Light Infantry of the Second.
	To the Left Face. -	By the Commandant of the Second Battalion.
		All the Companies of the Second, but the Light Infantry, face to the Left; and the covering Serjeants move out and mark their diſtances for their reſpective Companies.
		The Brigadier allows a pauſe for the Serjeants to take their diſtances, and then orders
Quick, March. - -	Quick March. - -	The whole Companies of the Second, except the Light Infantry, file into the new alignment; while the Second is performing its part of the Evolution, the other Corps are performing theirs. The Commandants of the Third and Firſt Battalions, ſo ſoon as their reſpective Corps are wheeled into Open Column, diſengage the heads of their Battalion Columns from the general one, and on the command "Quick March," lead them in Quick Time towards their rear points of entry in the new Column, where they wheel into the new poſition. But if the Brigadier has before directed that they ſhall form in it, at their head points of entry, their Adjutants will mark ſuch head points; and each Commandant in that caſe leads his Column with its pivot Flank directed on his Adjutant. When arrived within a few paces of him, the Commandant ſays—

Column—

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	General Explanations.
	Column—Halt.	
	Left Face. - - -	The covering Serjeants move out with all expedition, and take the neceſſary diſtances for their reſpective Companies in the new alignment. The Light Infantry Serjeant places himſelf at a diſtance from the Adjutant equal to the front of his Company, and in a Line with the Adjutant and the pivots of the preceding Corps; the other Serjeants alſo place themſelves in the line of pivots, at their due diſtances. The Commandant of the Battalion directs—
	Quick March. - -	The different Companies move in file to their poſitions in the alignment, as before deſcribed; and are halted, fronted, and dreſſed by their different Captains. By the rear Battalions entering the alignment at their head points, this Evolution will be done more upon the principles of the Manœuvre than by entering at their rear points. But though the Regulations admit of both, yet entering at the rear points is conſidered by them as the beſt general practice on all occaſions: and the one to be followed, unleſs ordered to the contrary by the Officer in Chief. If therefore the rear Battalions enter at their rear points, their Adjutants will mark ſuch rear points; and their Commandants, as before, will lead them in Quick Time upon their Adjutants, who ſtand as points at which each Corps wheels its reſpective Diviſions into the new alignment; and which Diviſions afterwards prolong their march in it, keeping their pivots in a line with thoſe of the preceding Battalion, till each reaches its poſition, when the whole are halted, unleſs the general Column is before put in motion.
		As a ſingle Battalion filing into a new alignment by the Eighth Manœuvre is not put in motion till Three Companies beſide the front one are formed, ſo the Brigade performing the ſame Manœuvre will require that the whole of the leading Battalion, and ſome part of the next Corps, be formed in the new Column before it is ordered to advance; and, indeed, as great bodies move ſlow, it may be prudent to wait either till the Third and Firſt have nearly filed their whole Diviſions into it: or if they have entered by wheeling at their rear points have nearly reached their individual ſtations before the Brigadier gives the order to advance. As before obſerved, entering at the rear points is the plan always to be purſued, unleſs ordered to the contrary.
		The Fig. 58 ſhews the Left Battalion filing into the new poſition; and the route of the other two leading to their rear points. The ſame mode would be followed if the line conſiſted of any number of Battalions.
		When the Brigadier ſees the Three Battalions have nearly occupied their different poſitions in the new alignment,
March. - - - - -	March. - - - -	The whole of the general Column already formed moves on, and the reſidue gain their ſtations and follow at Ordinary Time.
		When the Brigadier ſees the whole in their poſitions, and marching ſteady,
Form Subdiviſions. -	Form Subdiviſions. -	The whole form Column of Subdiviſions.
		When the Brigadier ſees the whole in Column of Subdiviſions, and moving ſteady,
Form Companies. -	Form Companies. -	The whole form Column of Companies, as before deſcribed.
		When the whole are moving in Column of Companies,
Halt. - - - - -	Halt. - - - - -	The whole halt.

Wheel

Fig. 58.

The Brigade forming open Column in rear of the Light Infantry 2.d Batt.n

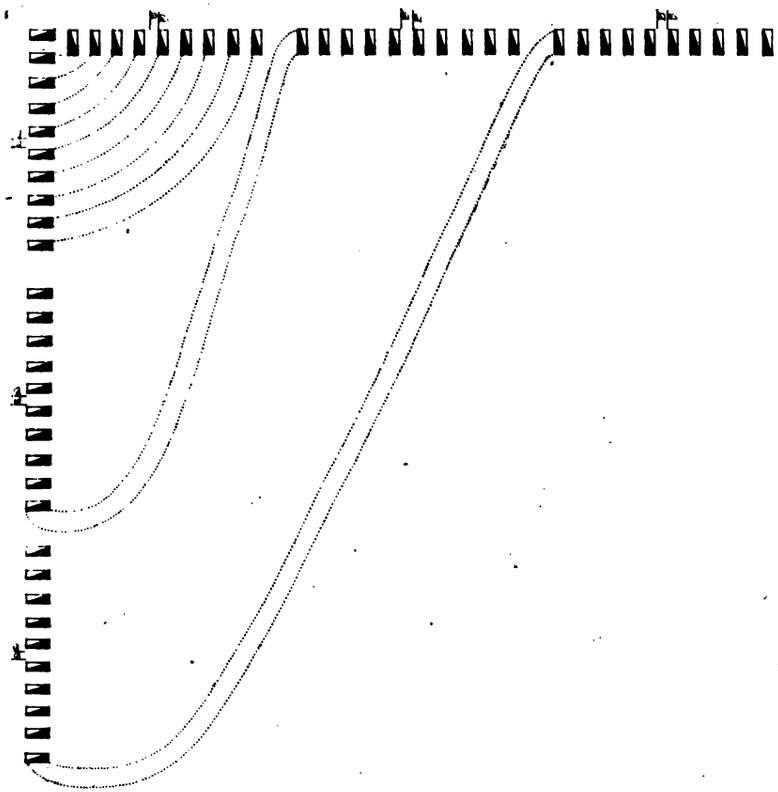


Plate 33.

Fig. 60.

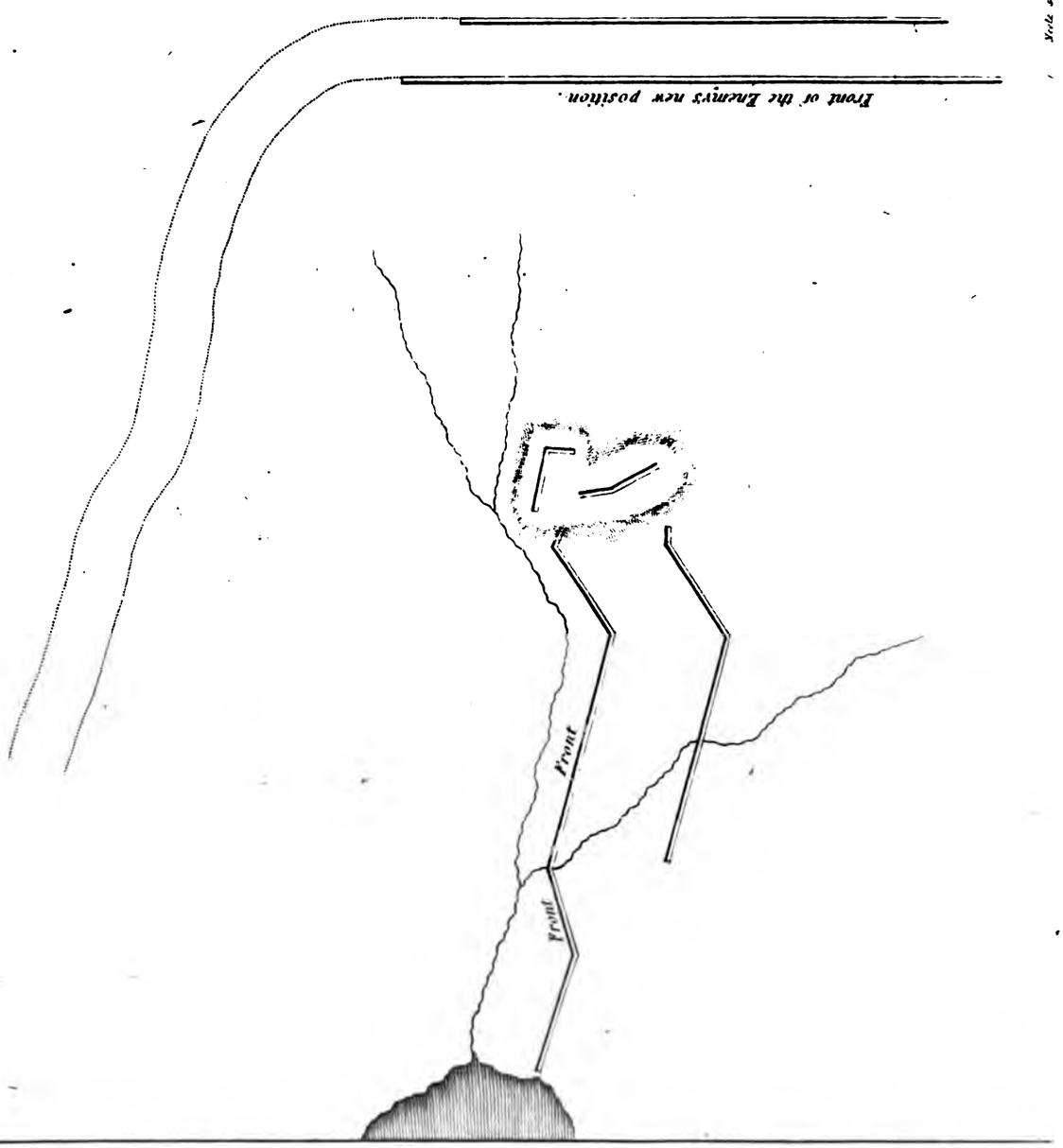
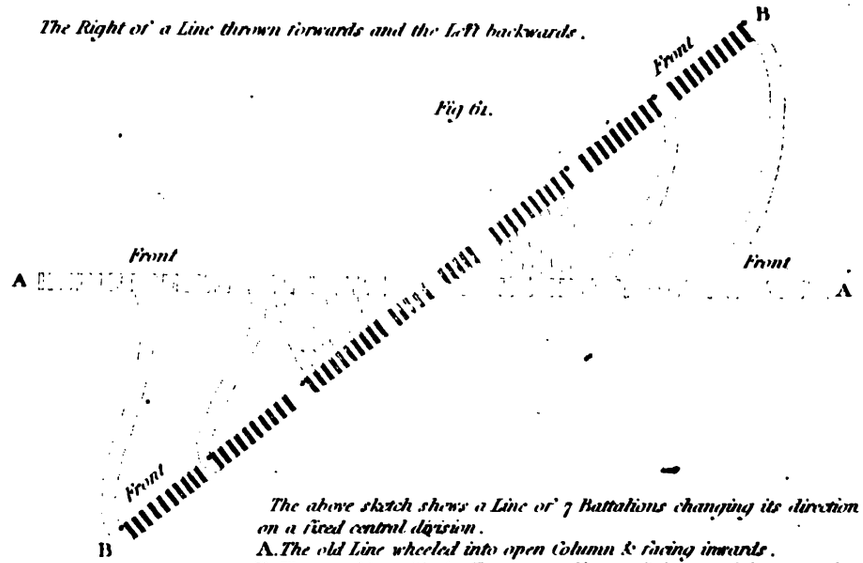


Fig. 40.

The Brigade in Line, perpendicular to the original position.

The Right of a Line thrown forwards and the Left backwards.

Fig 61.



The above sketch shews a Line of 7 Battalions changing its direction on a fixed central division.
A. *The old Line wheeled into open Column & facing inwards.*
B. *The new Line with the Troops standing on it in open Column previous to being wheeled up. The central Battalion & the one to Right & Left of it have filed into their positions The other Battalions have led in open Column to points marked by their Adjutants The two Right Hand Battalions wheel when within a space equal to a Company's Front of their Adjutants.*

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	General Explanations.
Wheel into Line. -	To the Right wheel into Line. Quick March. - -	The whole wheel into Line, and the Brigade ſtands in a perpendicular direction to the Left Flank of the original poſition. See Fig. 59.

Remarks on the Eighth Manœuvre.

The Eighth Manœuvre points out the manner in which the Line of an Army changes its front by the Open Column, when circumſtances render ſuch a change neceſſary. Suppoſe a Line running in a given direction, and ſo ſtrongly poſted, that an Enemy does not venture an attack in front; but that he may force it from this ſtrong ſituation, he makes a movement, and takes up a poſition interſecting the prolongation of the Line to the Right; ſee Fig. 60. The General no longer conſiders the Army ſafe with its Right Flank ſo thrown up; and therefore determines to change his front by the Open Column; and that his new Line ſhall run to the rear, and perpendicular to his preſent Left. The left-hand Diviſion of the Line ſtands faſt; and all the reſt of the Line proceed to form an Open Column in its rear, as pointed out by the Manœuvre. Before, however, the whole have done ſo, either becauſe there is not ſufficient room for the rear Battalions, or to take up what is afterwards conſidered a ſtronger poſition, or for other cauſes, the Column is put in motion. The Adjutants of ſuch Corps as have not yet entered the alignment, move on, preſerving their relative diſtances, and unleſs particularly ordered that the front points ſhould be marked, their reſpective Battalions wheel at them into the rear of the new Column, when, contrary to what would be the caſe if the front was halted, they move on at Quick Time till the leading Diviſion of each gains its due diſtance: the Battalion to which it belongs then takes up the Ordinary ſtep.

The Column in advancing, finding it neceſſary, contracts its front to Subdiviſions, and again extends it to Companies; thus exemplifying how Columns in paſſing irregular ground or narrow defiles perform this very uſeful operation. The Column next halts and wheels into Line; if a central Diviſion now occupies the ſpot where the Left before ſtood, the new Line will interſect the Left of the old one at right angles: but if the Column has proceeded till its Rear Diviſion has paſſed the above ſpot, the new Line will of courſe ſtand perpendicular, and to the front of the former Left. If a Line changes its direction on a Right Flank Diviſion, the ſame proceſs takes place; the Line breaks into Open Column towards the Right, and proceeds as has been deſcribed, when it changes on a Left Diviſion. If the change is to be made on a central Diviſion (Sect. 184), ſuch central Diviſion is placed with its front perpendicular to the new alignment (Fig. 61): the Line then breaks into Open Column inwards; that is to ſay, all the Corps to Right of the central Diviſion wheel back by Companies upon their Right; and all thoſe to the Left, wheel back on their Left, and both front towards it: the different Diviſions of its own Battalion to its Right and Left, together with the next Battalion on the Right, and next Battalion on the Left, face, file, and place their pivots on the alignment, to front and rear of it; all the other Battalions break from the general Column, and lead towards their rear points of entry, previouſly marked by their Adjutants, at, or near whom they wheel, ſo as alſo to place their pivots on the alignment, and to move along it till each gains its proper poſition, and is halted previous to wheeling into Line. If the Right of the old Line is to be thrown forward, and the Left backwards, the Diviſions and Battalions before to Right of the central Diviſion will form in its front; and thoſe before to its Left, will form in its rear: on the contrary, if the Left of the old Line is to be thrown forward, and the Right backward, by the change, the reverſe will take place. The Diviſion formed immediately in front of the central Company or Diviſion leaves a ſpace equal to the front of both between them; for as they face each other, and are to wheel into the ſame

Line, it is evident they muſt wheel into it on oppoſite Flanks; and as both wheels are to be made in the ſpace or diſtance between them, that ſpace muſt be equal to both their fronts. Lines touching or cutting the former poſition obliquely are alſo taken up in the ſame way by the Open Column; the named Diviſion is wheeled till its front ſtands perpendicular to the intended Line; all the others proceed as above deſcribed.

So much has been ſaid of the changes performed by the Open Column, becauſe they are the uſual modes adopted by Lines of Armies in altering their poſitions, when a ſudden attack from an Enemy is not apprehended upon the Troops while in detached Columns performing the evolution: if ſuch attack is to be looked for, the Regulations point out the echellon march as the ſafeſt mode of changing the direction of a Line.

If a change is made on a moving central Diviſion (Section 185), ſuch central Diviſion will of courſe be the one where the new Line interſects the old one: or if prolonged, would interſect it: the named Diviſion is placed with its pivot Flank on the new direction, and its front perpendicular to it (Fig. 62); all the reſt of the Line break inwards into Open Column, and face towards it. The named Diviſion next moves forward along the new direction, followed by the other Diviſions of its Battalion in a double Column; one of which Columns, covers and proceeds immediately in the rear of the named diviſion; and the other keeps three or four paces on the Flank. The Column that follows immediately in rear of the named Diviſion will always conſiſt of thoſe Companies or Diviſions which, when the named one halts, can at the ſame inſtant halt in their natural order, ready to wheel up upon the ſame pivot with it into Line;—therefore if the named Diviſion is to wheel to the Right into Line, it will be immediately followed and covered by thoſe Diviſions which are naturally to its Right in the Battalion: if, on the contrary, it is to wheel to the Left into Line, it will be followed and covered by thoſe Diviſions naturally to its Left in the Battalion. When the named Diviſion reaches its new poſition, it halts, as do all thoſe immediately in its rear; thoſe upon the Flank move on till paſt the named one, and file ſucceſſively into the alignment with their faces towards the named Diviſion; on which account, the one immediately in its front leaves a double wheeling diſtance; all the other Battalions of the Line, except ſuch as find it their neareſt route to follow in the rear of the Column led by the named Diviſion, break into detached Columns, and take the ſhorteſt directions towards their reſpective rear points marked by their Adjutants, where they wheel their pivots into the alignment, move forward, and take up their poſitions.

If the named Diviſion is a Flank one, of any Corps, the reſt of the Battalion will all follow in its rear and covering it: the adjoining Battalion moves on the Flank three or four paces diſtant, till the named Diviſion, and thoſe in its rear, halt; the Battalion moving on the Flank then paſſes them, and files its Diviſions ſucceſſively into their poſitions as above. If the named Diviſion in making ſuch changes has to proceed to the rear inſtead of the front, it will firſt countermarch, and the whole proceed as before.

The above Evolution is frequently uſeful to the Second Line in complying with the movements made by the Firſt.

If a Firſt Line (Fig. 63) leads to the front in Columns of Brigades, or larger Diviſions, wheels their heads into a new poſition, and takes up a Line ſimilar in direction to the one quitted, the Second Line would follow in ſimilar Diviſions, and gain its new poſition in the ſame way the Firſt did: but where the whole of a Firſt Line forms Open Column in rear of a Flank Diviſion, with the view of changing the direction of its front, as exemplified by the Eighth Manœuvre, in that caſe the Second Line, the moment the order was given for the movement of the Firſt, would break into Open Column towards the Flank the change was to be made on; would lead acroſs the new intended direction of the Firſt Line; and would wheel its head into the new intended direction of the Second Line, at the point where the prolongation of the old Second Line interſected the new, followed by ſuch Battalions as found it their natural route: but all the others breaking from the general Column would enter at the points marked by their Adjutants. See Fig. 64.

If the prolongation of the old Second Line did not interſect the new, or only touched it, which muſt often happen when of ſmall dimenſions, and thrown behind the farther Flank of the Firſt Line, in that caſe, it would break into Column as before, and each Battalion would diverge from the general Column towards its new poſition either immediately or ſo ſoon as its neareſt route pointed out to be eligible, and would enter at its Adjutant, as before deſcribed.

The different modes of changing the poſitions of Lines by the Open Column have now been ſhewn; and it may not be improper alſo in this place to mention how Columns at open, half or quarter diſtance, change places. They face towards each other and move forward by their Flanks, till they nearly approach: one halts, and the other files through; when they both again proceed to their poſitions. (Sect. 192.)

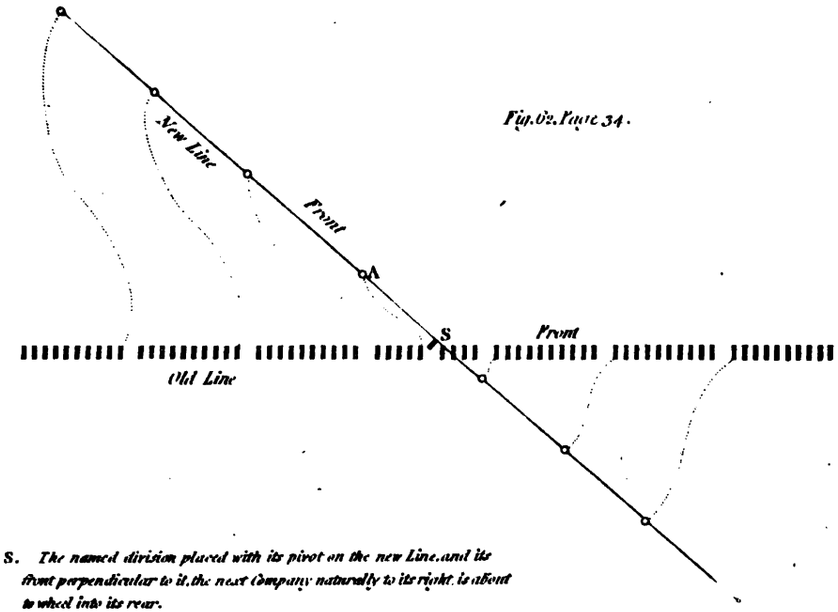


Fig. 62. Page 34.

S. *The named division placed with its pivot on the new Line, and its front perpendicular to it, the next Company naturally to its right, is about to wheel into its rear.*

A. *The point where the named division is to halt.*

The dots denote the Lines taken by the different Battalions in gaining their stations.

Fig. 63

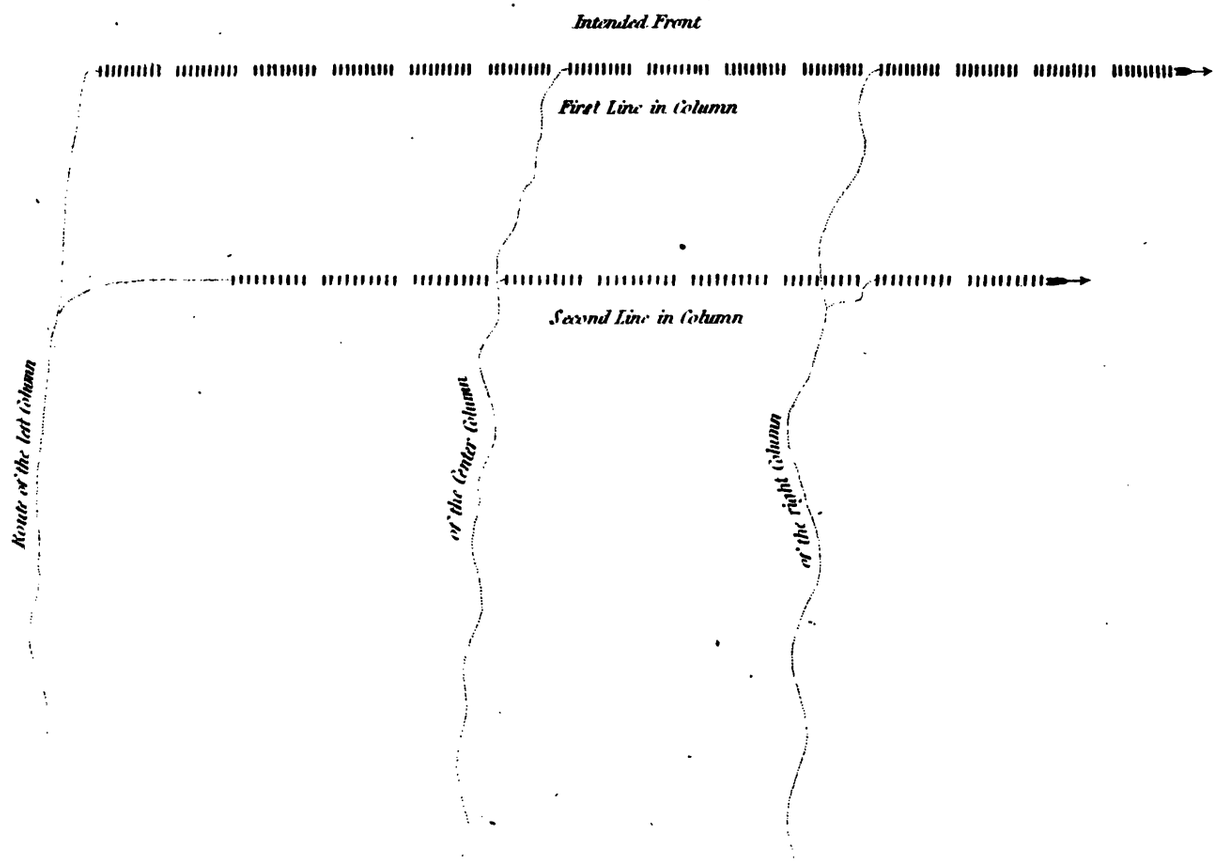
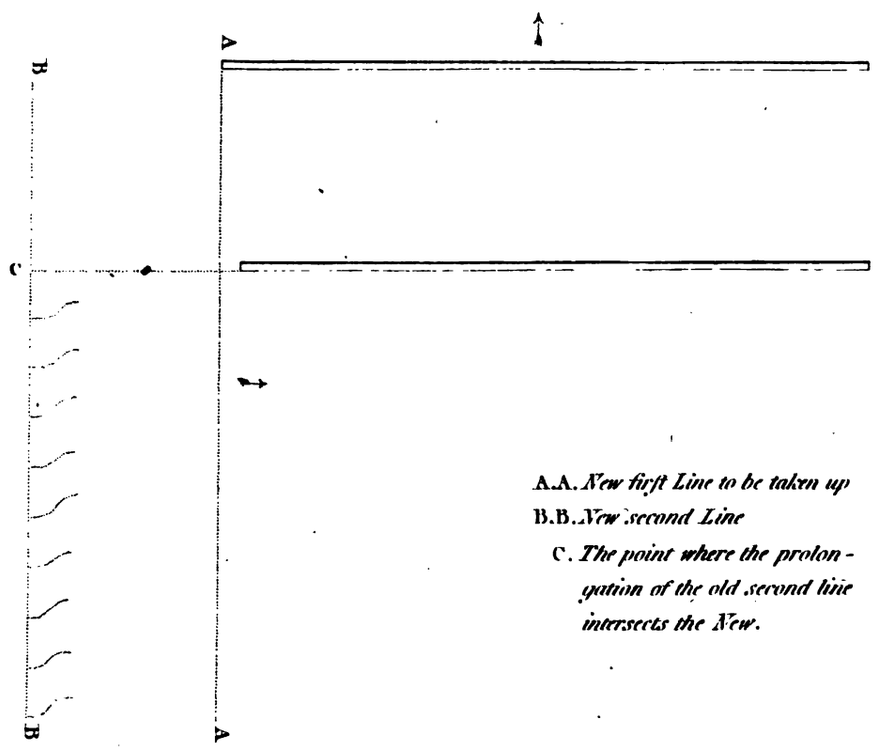

Intended Front
First Line in Column
Second Line in Column
Route of the left Column
of the Center Column
of the right Column

Fig. 64.

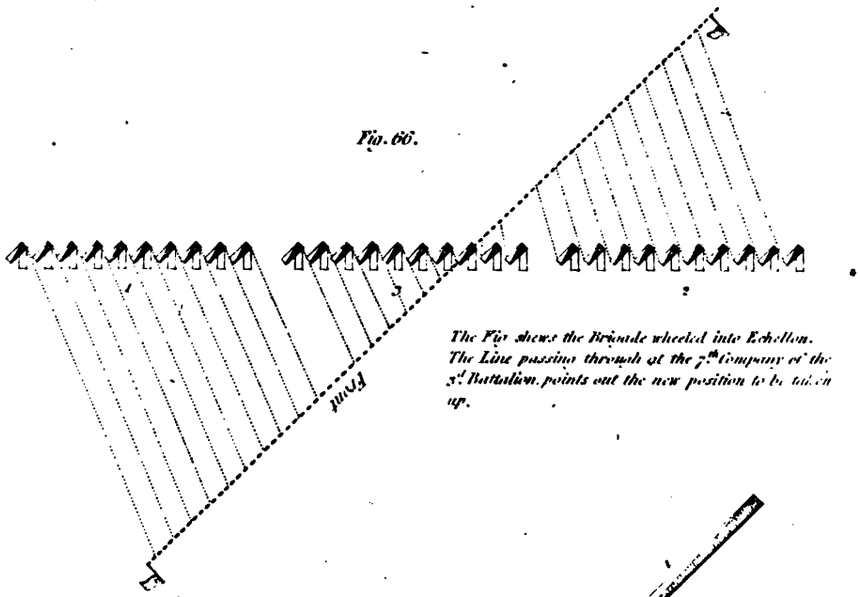


A.A. *New first Line to be taken up*
B.B. *New second Line*
C. *The point where the prolongation of the old second line intersects the New.*

Fig. 65.

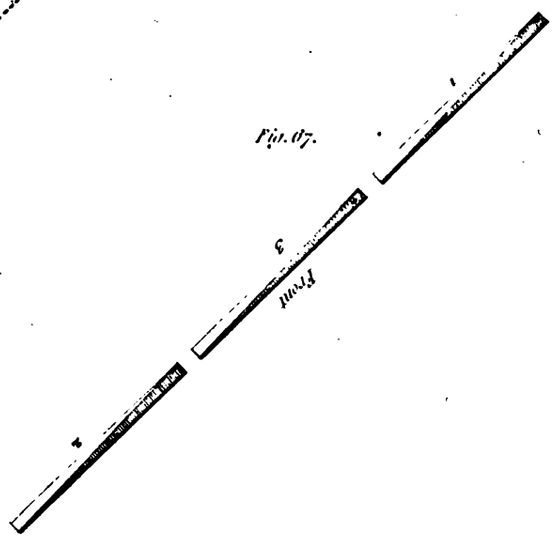
The Bristols in line perpendicular to the original position.

Fig. 66.



The Fig. shews the Brigade wheeled into Echellon. The Line passing through the 7th Company of the 3d Battalion, points out the new position to be taken up.

Fig. 67.



Page 355.

NINTH MANŒUVRE.

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	General Explanations.
		By the Eighth Manœuvre the Brigade was Left in one Line perpendicular to the original poſition: what is to be underſtood by the "original poſition," is that direction the Line occupied at the commencement of the Firſt Manœuvre. The Ninth Manœuvre by throwing back the Left, and bringing forward the Right of the Line, forms one whoſe direction is oblique to the original poſition; thus pointing out how the Line of an Army might make a ſimilar change.
		The Brigade is ſtanding, as before-mentioned, perpendicular to the original poſition. See Fig. 65.
Wheel into Column, Left in front. -	Repeated.	
	Companies on the Right backwards wheel.	
	Quick March. - -	The whole wheel back into Open Column, Left in front.
(Section 195.) The Seventh Company of the Third Battalion will wheel back four paces on the Left, and Line will be formed on it by the Echellon of Companies. -		
	Repeated. - - -	In wheeling from Column into Echellon, if the named Diviſion wheels back one pace, the others will wheel about four paces and a half; if two paces, they will wheel five; if three paces, they will wheel five and a half; if four, they will wheel ſix; if five, they will wheel ſix and a half; if ſix, they will wheel ſeven; if ſeven, they will wheel ſeven and a half; which may be pretty eaſily remembered, and places the Diviſions ſufficiently near their perpendicular poſitions for all practical purpoſes; indeed, as near as can be determined without poſitive mathematical meaſurement.
	Companies,—Six Paces on your Left, backwards wheel.	
	Quick March. - -	The whole wheel back. The Commandant of the Third Battalion cautions his Seventh Company beforehand that it is to wheel only four paces; or to ſtand faſt, if it has been previouſly wheeled into the new direction. See Fig. 66.

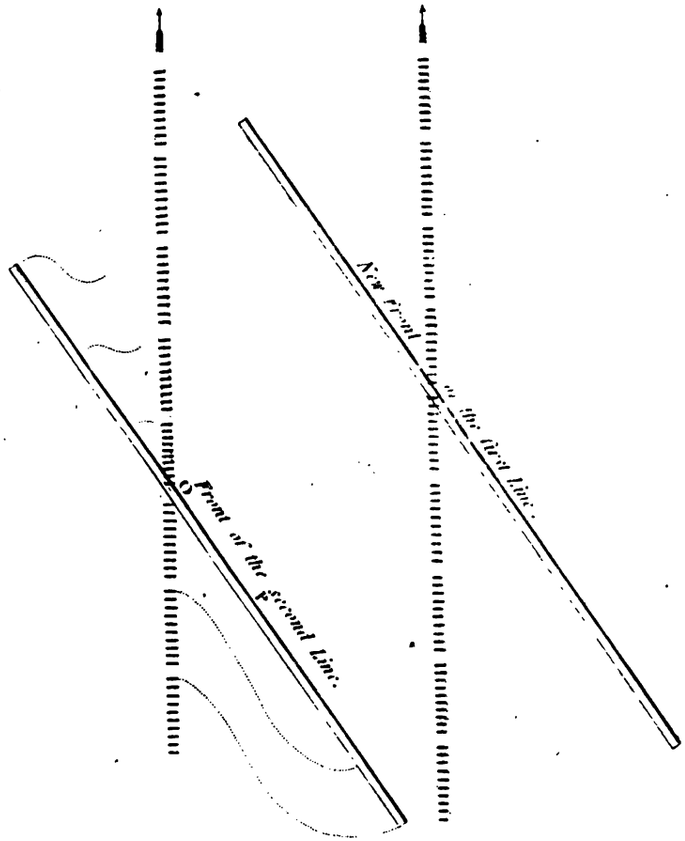
Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
	About Face. - - -	By the Commandant of the Third Battalion to his Eighth, and Light Infantry Companies; and by the Commandant of the Second Battalion to his whole Corps; of courſe the Eighth, and Light Infantry Companies of the Third Battalion, and the whole of the Second, face about.
March. - - - -	March. - - - -	The whole, except the Seventh Company of the Third Battalion, move off at Ordinary Time; the Adjutants of the Firſt and Second Battalions mark the ſpot where the leading Diviſions of their reſpective Battalions are to ſtand. When the leading Flank of ſuch leading Diviſions touch the new Line, theſe Diviſions are halted, and wheeled forward two paces, which brings them ſquare with the new formation. Whatever may be the dimenſions of an Echellon, the number of paces to be wheeled are taken before or behind the Eighth File from the ſtanding Flank. The Flank Companies being thus accurately formed in the new Line, the other Companies of the Three Battalions, as they approach their poſitions, receive from their Captains "—Shoulders Forward;" which brings them ſquare with the new alignment; all the Companies which ſtood before the named one in the Open Column are halted, fronted, and dreſſed; thoſe that were behind it, are alſo halted and dreſſed by command of their reſpective Captains.
		The Brigade has again formed Line, and ſtands oblique to the poſition it quitted and to the original poſition. Fig. 67.

Remarks on the Ninth Manœuvre.

The Ninth Manœuvre points out the mode in which Troops ſtanding in Open Column form Line on a central Diviſion by the Echellon March of Companies; ſuch central Diviſion may either remain in its firſt poſition, or be wheeled into any new direction which it is wiſhed the intended Line ſhould run in; all the other Diviſions, whatever is the direction given to the one on which the Line is to be formed, are wheeled ſo many paces backwards as will be neceſſary to place their fronts perpendicular to the Lines on which they are to march; or, to ſpeak more intelligibly, till they can move towards their different ſtations with their bodies ſquare to the front. If the Line to be formed is to front towards the rear of the Column, the whole will firſt countermarch from the Right of Companies, and then proceed as before. In all formations of Line on a central Diviſion of the Open Column by the Echellon march of Companies, the Diviſions that were in front of the named one muſt of courſe be faced to the Right about, before they are put in motion.

It is not to be underſtood from the Ninth Manœuvre, if a Line of Troops runs in one direction, and it is wiſhed to change it on a fixed central Company by the Echellon march of the others, that to effect the change it is previouſly neceſſary to throw the Line into Open Column; the Echellon may take place at once from Line without the inconvenience or delay of forming Column at all (Section 195, 208): Let the Brigade be drawn up in Line perpendicular to the original poſition, as was the caſe at the beginning of the Ninth Manœuvre, and let the Brigadier direct that the Seventh Company of the Third Battalion will wheel forward four paces on the Left; remaining Companies of the Brigade wheel two paces; thoſe to the Right of the named Company, forwards on the Left; thoſe to its Left, backwards on the Right: or, that the Seventh Company, Third Battalion, will wheel four paces back on the Right; remaining Companies wheel two paces; thoſe to the Left, backwards on the Right; thoſe to the Right, forwards on the Left; that the Left Companies

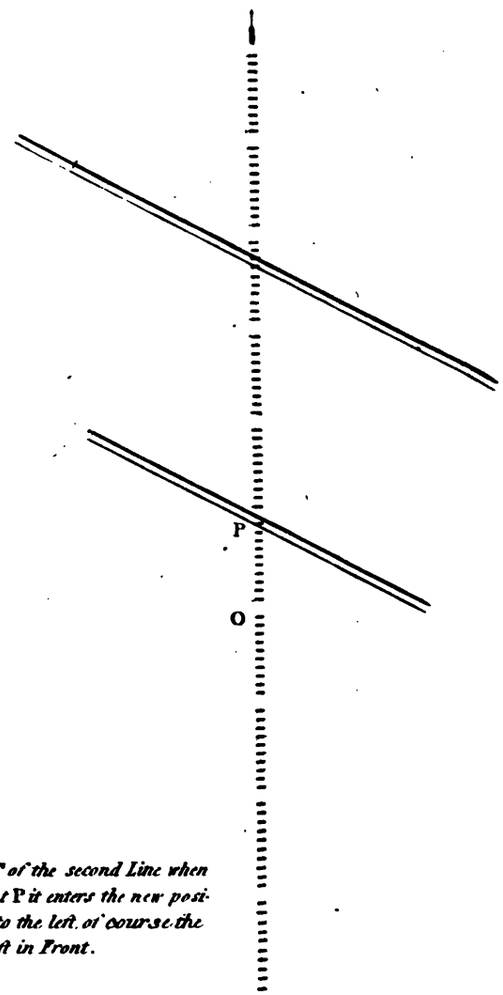
Fig. 69.



The Figure shews two Columns leading with the left.

O. *The Point where the new second Line intersects the Column of the old one; all in front of this point countermarch.*
The intersected Company which has also countermarched, moves along the new Line to P

Fig. 68.



O. *The leading Batt.n of the second Line when it reaches the point* P *it enters the new position by wheeling to the left, of course the column has its left in Front.*

Companies will go to the Right about, and that the whole will form Line on the Seventh Company of the Third Battalion: or what is ſtill more ſimple than either of theſe, the part of the Line to be thrown back, may firſt face to the Right about, and the whole wheel inwards two paces, which amounts exactly to the ſame thing. The Companies move to their different poſitions, and will, in either of the three caſes, without forming Open Column at all, take up a Line exactly ſimilar to the one which has before been formed by the Ninth Manœuvre.

The intention therefore of this Manœuvre is to ſhew how Line is taken up by the Echellon upon any Diviſion of an Open Column. Suppoſe, for example, that an Army after advancing in a Column of march, halts at a given point, with an intention of forming Line to the front by a deployment; the ſubſequent movements of the Enemy, however, render it neceſſary that the Line ſhould run in an oblique direction, paſſing through or interſecting a central Battalion of the Column; on which account, inſtead of a deployment the General determines to throw the Diviſions of the Column into Echellon; and by retiring thoſe in the front, and bringing forward thoſe in rear, to form the intended Line. The Diviſion of the Column interſected by the propoſed Line, is placed in the given oblique direction; all the others wheel back into Echellon; thoſe Battalions in front of the named Diviſion face to the Right about; and the whole proceed to form Line, as pointed out by the Manœuvre. If the Corps in front of the named Diviſion are attacked in retiring, they face to the Right about, and wheel forward on their pivot Flank into Line; if thoſe in rear of it are attacked in advancing, they halt and wheel back on their pivots into Line.

When Troops are obliged to form from Echellon to reſiſt an attack, the Officers remain on the Echellon Flank, fire their Companies in that poſition, and ſo ſoon as the attack is repulſed, again wheel into Echellon by the order of their reſpective Commandants of Battalions, to complete the intended Evolution.

An Army advancing in Two or more Columns might form them into a general Line, in the ſame way that the ſingle Column does; but ſome arrangement would be neceſſary in placing the Columns at their due diſtance from each other. When a front Line takes a new poſition from Open Column, as above detailed, if the Second Line of the Army was following the Firſt in Column, and that the new poſition it was to take, ran in front of, and did not interſect any one of its Battalions, in that caſe, ſuch Second Line or its Column would move forward till the leading Diviſion touched the new poſition, and would then wheel into it, followed by all the Battalions which found ſuch to be their natural courſe; but the others breaking from the general Column, would take the neareſt direction to the points marked by their Adjutants, and there enter; ſee Fig. 68. If, on the other hand, the new poſition or its prolongation did interſect the Column of the Second Line, and that the Firſt and Second Lines were moving in One general Column, or in a parallel direction to each other, in either of theſe caſes the Second Line would eaſieſt gain its new poſition upon a moving central Diviſion; a deſcription and figure of which is given under the head of the Eighth Manœuvre; of courſe, that part of the Column in front of ſuch central Diviſion would firſt countermarch from the Right of Companies.

Fig. 69 ſhews the Firſt Line moving in One Column, and the Second Line in another, parallel to it. The Firſt Line takes up an oblique poſition from Open Column by the Echellon of Companies, and the Second Line gains its new relative ſituation upon a moving central Diviſion.

TENTH MANŒUVRE.

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
		By the Ninth Manœuvre the Brigade was left ſtanding in an oblique Line to the original poſition; Fig. 70. The Tenth Manœuvre gives it the ſame direction it originally was formed in.
(Section 209, 196.) The Light Infantry of the Second Battalion will wheel four paces to the Left, and Line will be formed on it by the Echellon of Companies. - -	Repeated. - - - -	The Light Infantry of the Second is wheeled four paces to the Left, which places it in the new Line.
	Companies, Two paces to the Left wheel. -	By the Commandant of each Battalion.
	Quick March. - -	The whole wheel forward two paces into Echellon.
March. - - - - -	March. - - - - -	The whole move off at Ordinary time to form in Line with the Light Infantry of the Second Battalion: the Diviſions of the Second, as they approach their reſpective poſitions, receive from their Captains the orders — "Right Shoulders Forward." When the Light Infantry Companies of the other Battalions touch the new Line with their leading Flank, they are halted, and wheeled forward on the Left two paces from their Eighth File, which brings them ſquare with the new Line; the other Diviſions of their reſpective Battalions arrange themſelves on their Right, each receiving the command as they come into Line, "Right Shoulders Forward."
		The Brigade will ſtand as in Fig. 71.

Remarks

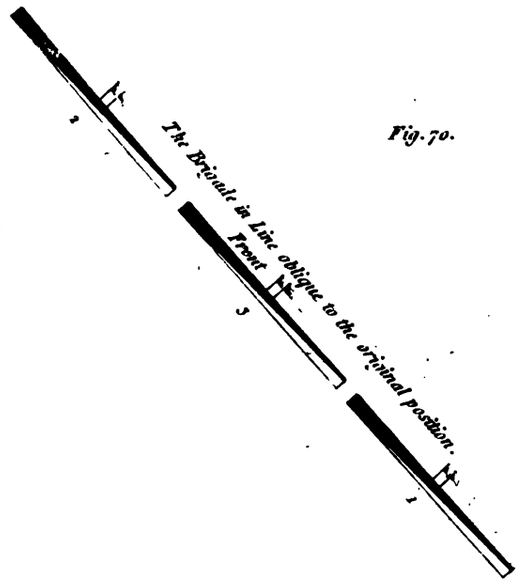
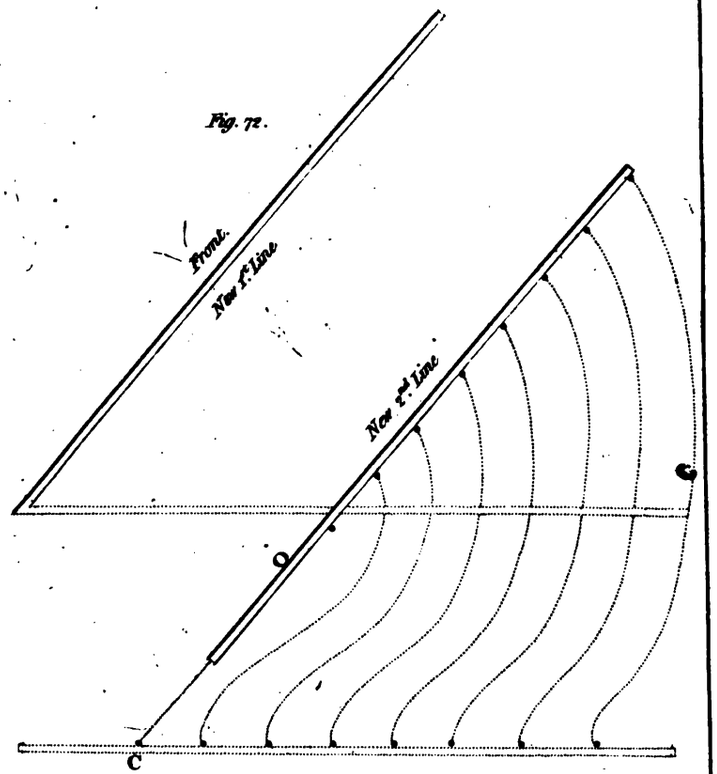

The Brigade in Line oblique to the original position.
Front
2
3
1

Fig. 70.

Front
2
3
1

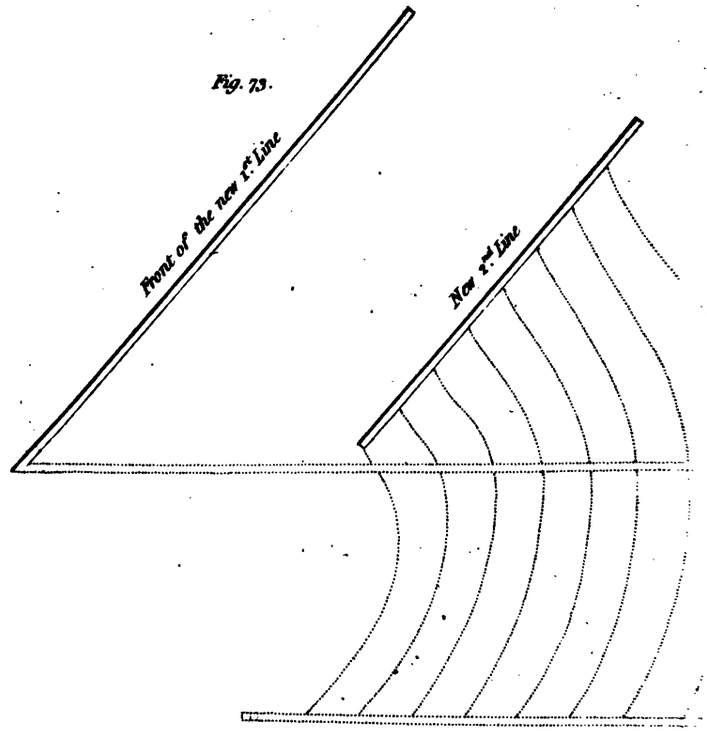
Fig. 71.

Fig. 72.



C. *The point where the prolongation of the new second Line intersects the old the whole break into Column towards the intersected Division which moves along the new Line till it reaches* O – *followd by all those naturally to its Left and flanked by the other Divisions of its own Battalion.*

Fig. 73.



New second Line taken up where neither it nor its prolongation intersect the old second Line.

Remarks on the Tenth Manœuvre.

The Tenth Manœuvre ſhews how an Army ſtanding in an oblique Echellon of Brigades, or larger Diviſions, would throw theſe forward into a general Line, and it alſo exemplifies how a Line of any dimenſions throws forward a Wing or any part of it by the Echellon march, either for the purpoſe of ſeizing a ſtronger poſition, or for forming an oblique Line preparatory to an attack on an Enemy's Flank: all ſuch changes, whether on a Flank or central Diviſion, might be made more rapidly by the Open Column; but whenever danger is looked for during the Evolution, the Echellon is pointed out by the Regulations as the ſafeſt mode to be reſorted to.

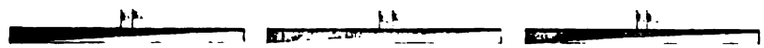
If a change is to be made from Line on a central Diviſion (Section 195, 208) by throwing back one part of the Line, and bringing forward the other, the named Diviſion is placed in the intended direction; all the others wheel into Echellon, as pointed out in the Remarks on the Ninth Manœuvre; thoſe Battalions to be thrown back, face to the Right about; and the whole proceed to take up their poſitions, as before deſcribed. The Second Line would, in this inſtance, gain its new poſition on a moving central Diviſion.

Where a Firſt Line is thrown forward on a Flank, as is the caſe in the Tenth Manœuvre, if the new Second Line, or its prolongation, interſects the old (Fig. 72), the Second Line will beſt gain its poſition upon a moving central Diviſion (Section 209); and ſo will it alſo act in all changes made by a firſt Line on a central Diviſion, whether ſuch changes are effected by Echellon or Column. If the new Second Line, or its prolongation, does not interſect the old, which may happen in wheeling forwards on a Flank, in ſuch caſe, the Second Line would break into Column towards the wheeling Flank of the Firſt Line, and enter its poſition at its re: - points. See Fig. 73.

ELEVENTH MANŒUVRE.

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
		The Brigade is in Line, as in Fig. 74, and proceeds to the Eleventh Manœuvre.
Right Face. - - -	Right Face. - - -	The whole face to the Right.
March. - - - - -	March. - - - - -	The whole move off in File to the Right.
		When the Brigadier thinks they have advanced far enough in File
Form Open Column of Companies. - -	Form Open Column of Companies. - -	Each Captain of a Company ſays— "Company, Left turn; Right wheel." Each Company faces to the Left and then wheels forward to its Right, which brings the Brigade into Open Column: the inſtant this is done, it receives the command—
Forward. - - -	Forward. - - -	The whole move on in Open Column at Ordinary Time.
		When the Brigadier thinks they have advanced ſufficiently
Halt. - - - - -	Halt. - - - - - -	The whole halt in Open Column. Fig. 75.
		The Column being halted, and Pivots corrected
Wheel into Line. -	To the Left, wheel into Line.	
	Quick March. - -	The whole Companies wheel to their Left into Line.
		The Brigade ſtands again in Line with the original direction. Fig. 76.
		This ends the Eleventh Manœuvre, wherein is pointed out the mode in which a body of Troops having, on account of a narrow intricate route, or other cauſes, moved in file, forms Open Column of Companies on the march, when ſuch cauſes no longer exiſt.

Fig. 74. Page 40.



The Brigade in Line similar in direction to the original position.

Fig. 75.

Fig. 76.

TWELFTH MANŒUVRE, OR RETREAT.

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
		Before beginning this Manœuvre, the Brigadier determines whether the retreat is to be covered by the Light Infantry; and if it is, he ſignifies as much to the different Commandants.
		The Brigadier's horn ſounds (which in this and all inſtances is repeated) for the Light Infantry of each Battalion to "Form Company." The Light Infantry Companies proceed in rear of their different Battalions, and form two deep; each Company drawing up immediately behind the center of its own Corps, and told off in two Subdiviſions and four Sections.
(Section 203.) The Line will retire.	The Battalion will retire. - - - -	The Brigadier orders his horn to ſound the Retreat, when the Light Infantry of each paſs quickly through the center, or round the Flanks of their reſpective Corps, and align themſelves at equal diſtances, ſo as to cover the whole front.
		When the Brigadier ſees the Light Infantry nearly extended along the front of their different Battalions
About Face. - - -	About Face. - - -	The whole face to the Right about; and Three Serjeants move out Six paces in advance of the Colours of each Battalion, and by taking fixed objects to march on, aſſiſt in conducting the Line in the due direction.
March. - - - -	March. - - - -	The whole move off; and at the ſame inſtant the Brigadier orders his bugle-horn to give the ſignal for the Light Infantry to commence firing, who keep up an irregular fire, and fall back in uniſon with the movement of the Line.
		When the Brigadier thinks the Line has retired ſufficiently,
Halt. Front. - - - - -	Halt. Front. - - - -	The whole halt, and face to the Right about: the Brigadier at the ſame inſtant orders the ſignal from his horn for the Light Infantry to ceaſe firing; and ſo ſoon as that is obeyed, he orders another ſignal, "To Form Company, and form in Battalion;" upon which the Light Infantry place themſelves on the Left of their reſpective Corps (ſee Twelfth Manœuvre, under the head of Inſpection or Review of a Battalion of Infantry): this ſhould be done as quick as poſſible.
		When the Brigadier ſees the Light Infantry nearly clear of the front
Fire by Companies from Center to Flanks of Battalions. - -	Repeated. - - -	The Brigadier orders his field drum to beat the preparative (See "Movements of the Line," paragraph 13); upon which, the Right Center Companies fire; then the Left Center Compa-

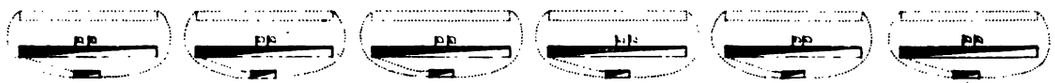
Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
		nies of each Battalion; and ſo on, till the fire has extended to the Flanks of the different Corps, when it recommences in the Center and again extends to the Flanks. The Brigadier orders his Drum to beat the General, or ſignal to ceaſe firing, when he thinks fit. The next part of this Manœuvre is the Retreat by alternate Companies. The Regulations no where mention that the Retreat by alternate Companies is reſorted to, by larger bodies than the ſingle Battalion, and therefore it is not detailed. The Diviſions ſeem too minute for a conſiderable Line. When a Firſt Line retires, as ſhewn by the Twelfth Manœuvre, the Second Line retires in the ſame way; and they may alternately paſs through each other, as hereafter deſcribed, if ſuch is deemed expedient.

Remarks on the Twelfth Manœuvre.

The Twelfth Manœuvre points out the mode in which a Line of Troops, covered by its Light Infantry, retires before an Enemy. The Light Infantry are thrown out for the purpoſe of keeping the riflemen and advanced parties of the oppoſing Army at a diſtance; and therefore on the nature of the retreat would depend whether they would be thus employed or not. If ſkirmiſhing was chiefly to be expected, and the Country in any degree incloſed or woody, the Light Infantry could in no way be more ſerviceable: if, on the contrary, the Country was open, and the retiring Line was cloſely preſſed by the oppoſing Army, it might be, in ſuch a caſe, leſs uſeful, by creating delay in the fire of the Line, when obliged to face about. To this may be added, that the Light Infantry are very frequently abſent from their Corps altogether, on ſervice. It is evident that the Light Infantry ſhould either be poſted in the rear altogether, without any ſpaces being left for them in the general Line, and only called to the front of their reſpective Battalions, as occaſion might require; or if ſpaces were left, that theſe ſhould be occupied the inſtant the Line forms to reſiſt an Enemy: otherwiſe ſuch Line muſt not only be deprived of one-tenth of its fire, but ſubject to the additional misfortune of having gaps all along its front.

Fig. 77 ſhews a Line retiring, covered by its Light Infantry.

Fig. 77. Page 42.



The Sketch points out the manner in which the Light Infantry, form in rear of their respective Battalions, and afterwards by moving round the flanks extend themselves in open files along the Front, when the whole are ready to move to the rear.

Fig. 78.

The Companies of the Brigade wheeled four paces forward.

Fig. 79.

to face Page 43.

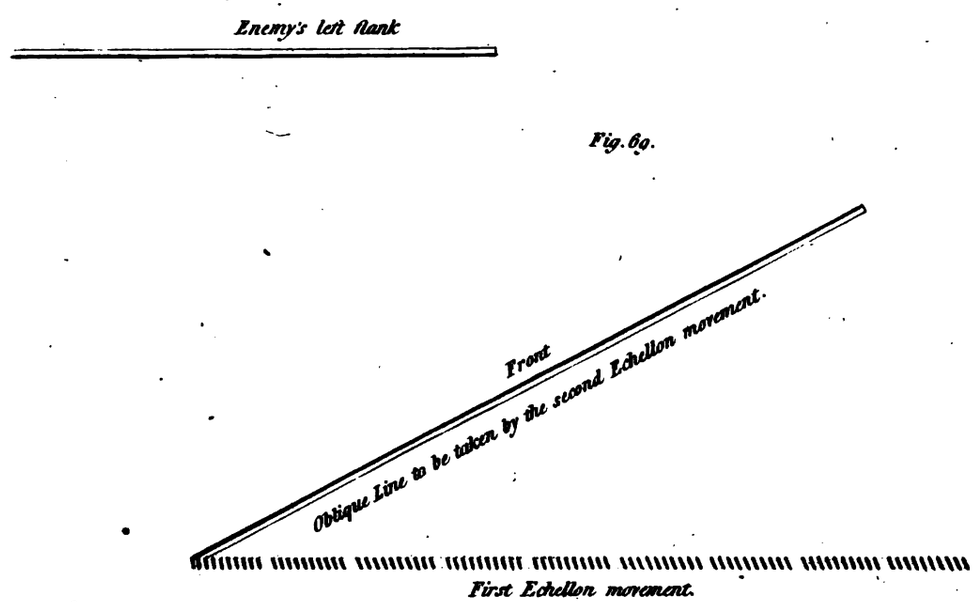


Fig. 69.

THIRTEENTH MANŒUVRE.

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
		The Brigade has retired to nearly the original ground where it commenced the Manœuvres, and proceeds to the Thirteenth.
(Section 154, 196.) By Companies, —Four Paces to the Right wheel. - - - - -	Repeated.	
	Quick March. - -	The whole wheel up four paces, and an object is pointed out to the Captain commanding the right-hand Company of the Brigade, on which he is to march.
		Fig. 78. ſhews the Brigade in Echellon of Companies.
March. - - - - -	March. - - - - -	The whole move on at Ordinary Time.
(Section 156.)		When the Brigadier thinks they have advanced ſufficiently
Wheel back into Line.	Wheel back into Line.	The Pivot, or right hand man of each Company, marks time, and the others wheel back on him.—The three Center Serjeants of each Regiment advance in front, to guide the march in Line.
		The moment the Brigadier ſees the whole in Line,
Forward. - - -	Forward. - - -	The whole march forwards.
		When the Brigadier ſees the Line advancing with preciſion,
Halt. - - - - - -	Halt. - - - - - -	The whole Halt and ſtand in Line. Fig. 79.
		The Second Line of an Army performing this Evolution would follow exactly the ſame proceſs obſerved by the Firſt Line.

Remarks on the Thirteenth Manœuvre.

The Thirteenth Manœuvre ſhews the method in which a Brigade or Line of an Army gains ground to the front and to a flank at the ſame time, by the Echellon march of Companies: after gaining the required diſtance, how it wheels back into Line in the ſame direction with the one it quitted; and again proceeds.—If, after gaining the deſired diſtance outwards, it is wiſhed to take an oblique poſition inwards, for the purpoſe of attacking an enemy's flank, (Section 196.) the whole wheel into Line and halt—the named Diviſion is placed in the deſired direction, and all the others wheeling again into Echellon form upon it, as pointed out under the Remarks of Manœuvres Fifth, Ninth, and Tenth; when they are ready to proceed in line againſt the enemy's flank: to open which, was, perhaps, the intention of the outward movement, Fig. 69. If, after

 gaining

gaining the deſired diſtance outwards, it is merely wiſhed to take up an oblique line, the whole halt in Echellon, the named Diviſion is wheeled into the intended direction, and all the others wheel as many paces backwards or forwards, as is neceſſary to place them perpendicular to their reſpective lines of march; or, in other words, till the number of paces they have wheeled from the old Line ſhall be one half the number which the named Diviſion has wheeled from it; they then move on and form upon it as uſual. This is the mode in which a Line changes its poſition by the Echellon march, when the new poſition does not touch or interſect the old Line, and ſuch changes may take place in all given directions either on a flank or central Diviſion.—If the firſt wheel of the Diviſions is four paces, and the named one afterwards wheels four more paces, the others are already in their proper poſition to move on without halting, but if the named Diviſion was to wheel forward ſix additional paces inſtead of four, the others halt and wheel one before moving on.—If the named Diviſion was to halt without any additional wheel, the others halt and wheel back two paces before moving on.—If the named Diviſion was to wheel back two paces, the others halt and wheel back three before moving on—ſo, as before ſaid, that their wheel from the old Line ſhall always be one half of what the named Diviſion has wheeled from it.—If the named Diviſion is a central one, the portion of the Line to be thrown back, of courſe, faces to the right about, and proceeds as uſual.

From the foregoing, it appears to be an object of great importance in all Echellon changes, where the whole are moveable, that the commanding Officer ſhould, if poſſible, determine, in his own mind, the exact angle which the new Line to be taken up will form with the old one or its prolongation, and that he ſhould direct the Diviſions to wheel one half the number of paces neceſſary to give ſuch angle or direction; by this means when the leading Diviſion touches the new Line and wheels into it, all the other diviſions coming up will ſtill be perpendicular to their lines of march, and enabled thereby to move forward to them without ſtoppage or hindrance—Attention to this point will be found to ſimplify theſe movements extremely, and the larger the diviſions of the Echellon, the more its efficacy will be felt.—The good officer, on ſervice, will always ſtudy to gain his object by the ſimpleſt means; at a diſtance from an enemy, any evolution, however complex, may be attempted, but we muſt not look for the ſame collection under the fire of grape and muſketry that we do upon a parade; in the laſt inſtance, confuſion, excited by miſtake, leads only into a little loſs of credit; in the field of battle fatal might be the conſequences of ſuch a derangement.

Echellon movements muſt be oblique, if taken from Open Column; but when taken from Line, they may either be oblique or direct. All changes where the Line to be taken up is oblique to the one quitted, or to either Flank of it, require the oblique Echellon; and all changes where the Line to be taken up is immediately in front, or immediately in the rear, and parallel to the one quitted, require the direct Echellon; taking it for granted, that in both inſtances, the change is to be made by the Echellon march. In all oblique movements for the purpoſe of changing a poſition, or taking up a Line preparatory to an attack, the Echellon of Companies will probably be found the moſt flexible, and the one from which a Line can be moſt eaſily regained, in caſe of need. The oblique Echellon may, however, conſiſt of any dimenſions; for inſtance, ſuppoſe the Line of an Army running in front of, but oblique to that of an Enemy, was ordered to wheel forward into an Echellon of Brigades, which ſhould ſtand parallel to the Enemy's Line (Section 199); the Flank Companies on the Right or Left of the different Brigades would wheel forward, till they gained the intended parallel direction; all the other Companies of each, after wheeling half as many paces, would move forwards, and form on their reſpective Flank Companies; when the Line would ſtand in an Echellon of Brigades. If the Echellon was now to advance till its front Diviſion commenced an attack on the Enemy, and it became neceſſary (which probably would be the caſe) that the rear Diviſions ſhould move forward into a general Line; or that the front ſhould fall back into a general Line upon the rear: in either inſtance, as the Echellon is oblique, the Flanks of the different Echellons or Brigades would be doubled behind each other, and excluded from the battle; an inconvenience that would run into the moſt alarming extent, if the wheel from the old Line was conſiderable. To form upon the front Brigade after the action commenced, by a new Echellon movement, would require more time than could well be ſpared in ſuch a criſis, and would be very hazardous, as the rear Brigades in coming into the battle muſt be broken into Echellon of Companies, and form the general Line under the Enemy's fire. The Regulations, aware of theſe difficulties, and not thinking the rear Brigades could incline to the deſired Flank while moving forward, propoſe the following remedies: either that the rear Brigades of the Echellon, before any part begins to move, ſhould incline ſufficiently to a Flank, ſo that each ſhould ſtand clear of the preceding one; or that in taking up the oblique Line from which the Echellon was formed, the neceſſary diſtances ſhould be left between the Brigades.

From the above, it appears that the oblique Echellon is better calculated to change ſituations or take up Lines preparatory to an attack, than as a formation to make an attack in. The truth of the matter is, when Troops break from a general Line into ſeparate bodies, the great object to be conſidered is, how the general Line may be regained: and no formation is well calculated for an attack, by which this is rendered tedious or difficult, unleſs the ground or circumſtances of the caſe preclude a better choice. From an oblique Echellon of Brigades nothing is more ſimple than

Fig. 80.

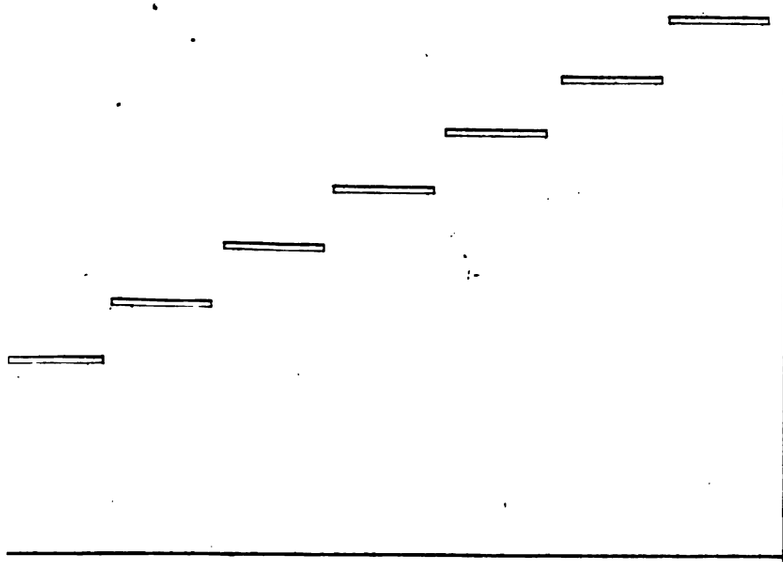


Fig. 81.

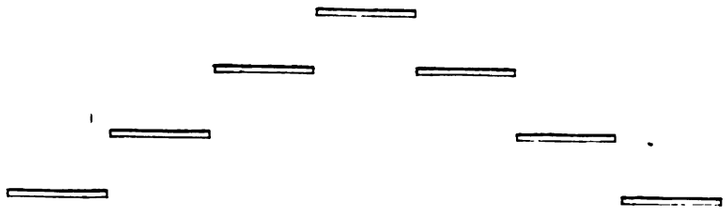


Fig. 82.

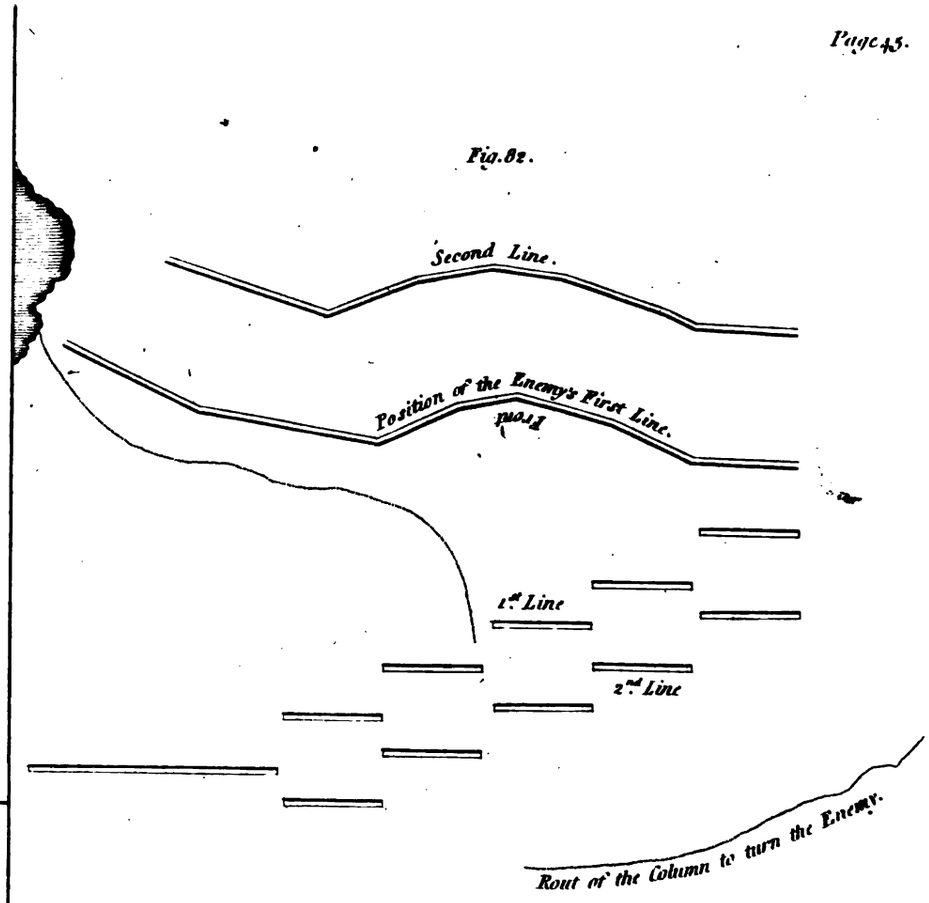
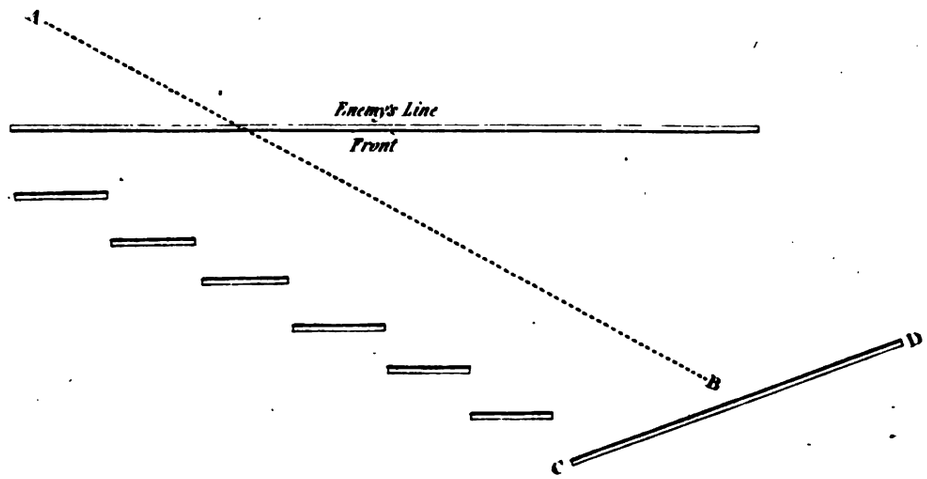


Fig. 83.



than to form a general Line in any direction, provided there is ſufficient time to do it, and that it is not to be done under the immediate muſketry of the Enemy's Battalions. If Line is to be taken up on the leading Diviſion, or Brigade, that Diviſion ſtands faſt; the others make the neceſſary change backwards, each upon the Company on its regulating Flank, which places them perpendicular to their lines of march; they then advance till the leading Flank of each touches its poſition in the general Line; the Flank company is wheeled into it, and the other Companies form upon the Flank Company as uſual, and ſo on in ſucceſſion; or, after wheeling back into Echellon of Companies, the different Brigades might remain in that form, then move up and form on the front one. If, from an Echellon of Brigades, a Line ſimilar in direction to the one quitted was required, the directing Flank Company of each would be wheeled back as many paces as they before wheeled from the old Line, (Section 199.) All the other Companies wheeling back half as many paces, face to the right about, and form on their reſpective named ones in the uſual way. Upon the ſame principles, a Line in any direction might be formed. Echellons (pages 394—395.) may either conſiſt of a whole Line or of a portion of a Line; one part of a Line may advance to an attack while the other moves in Echellon to co-operate in that attack; or one part may remain poſted to cover a retreat, if neceſſary, while the other commences an attack in Echellon; if both are moveable the motions of the one muſt depend on thoſe of the other. Echellons of half Battalions, or leſs, move by their directing Flanks; Echellons of Battalions, by their advanced Serjeants; Echellons of ſeveral Battalions, each by its own center, and the whole by the Battalion on the directing Flank. By at any time halting, an Echellon may be changed, and commence from an oppoſite Flank, or from the Center, the others following at their relative diſtances, if the Echellon is oblique, the Flanks muſt double in paſſing. In a direct Echellon of Battalions, each Corps ſends forward with the one preceding it, two under Officers to mark where its Center and inward Flank are to ſtand; when it becomes neceſſary to move up into Line with the preceding one: theſe Officers of courſe march in Line with that preceding one, and halt when it halts: if the Echellon diviſions conſiſt of more than one Battalion, ſo ſoon as Line is to be taken up, thoſe not upon the directing Flank alſo ſend forward individuals to mark their reſpective Centers. The direct Echellon (Section 197.) is where the different diviſions move to front or rear at equal diſtances without wheeling to either Flank, (Fig. 80) or upon a central diviſion, as in Fig. 81. (Section 198.

The direct Echellon is an ingenious method of bringing a portion of a Line into action, and keeping back, or as it is termed, refuſing the remainder. We ſhall ſuppoſe an Army drawn up in a firſt and ſecond Line, and that another of equal ſtrength arrives within 12 or 1400 yards of its front, in Columns of March, with the reſolution of coming to a battle;—The uſual mode of forming is in two Lines, and therefore the Columns receive directions to do ſo.—On reconnoitering, it is found that the ground in front of the enemy's right is broken and interſected with pieces of water, or other impediments to an attack, conſequently that the enemy's right is ſtrongly poſted; on the contrary, that his left is more aſſailable, and, therefore, it is determined to commence the battle by an attack upon his left; for this purpoſe the right-hand Brigade is put in motion directly to the front, and the other Brigades are ordered to follow in Echellon, at equal diſtances of 100 or 150 paces, as ſhewn in Figure 82, by this means before the whole Line is in motion, allowing it to conſiſt of ſeven Brigades, the right has nearly advanced on the enemy's left; both Generals, we ſhall ſuppoſe, foreſeeing that the weight of the battle muſt fall on theſe points, have ſtrengthened them with the whole force of their ſecond lines, reſerves, &c. perhaps alſo, the attacking General, from a prior knowledge of the enemy's poſition, has detached a force, by a circuitous route, to fall on the enemy's left flank during the battle. The action commences between the right-hand Brigades and the Enemy's left; if the former are ſucceſsful, all the others move rapidly forward into Line, to complete the defeat; if, on the contrary, a repulſe takes place, they fall back upon each other, and thus are conſtantly ſtrengthened in their retreat;—During the advance the ſecond Line follows in a ſimilar Echellon, and, if neceſſary, the diviſions of the firſt line may retire through thoſe of the ſecond, and be relieved in the attack, (Section 200.)

The ſimplicity with which the direct Echellon is taken up; the equal ſimplicity with which the general Line is regained; the eaſe with which a weak part of an Enemy's poſition is thus aſſailed; point out this movement as a very valuable one. There is no Evolution, however, which may not be counteracted by another: the art is in knowing the remedy, and in the promptitude of the application. The one apparently moſt applicable here, is a central change on the part of the Enemy's Line; which whilſt it throws back the wing that is threatened, brings forward the other on the reverſe Flank of the Echellon. Fig. 83 ſhews an attack of this kind: a portion of the Right Wing gains the oblique poſition C D, and remains poſted; an Echellon next commences from the Left, againſt the Enemy's Right; was the Enemy's Line to make a central change to A B, and then advance, it is evident the Echellon would be in the moſt imminent danger; but the Line A B would be taken in Flank by the poſted Line C D; conſequently the Enemy could not venture to make ſuch a change. Hence it appears wiſe in this, and moſt inſtances (where it can be done) to poſt one Wing, and attack with the other, reinforced by the Second Line.

In Echellon attacks, the Diviſions ſhould never be leſs than Two or more Battalions each.

FOURTEENTH

FOURTEENTH MANŒUVRE, OR HOLLOW SQUARE.

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
		In performing the Fourteenth Manœuvre, the firſt thing to be enquired is the relative ſtrength of the Battalions; for on that will depend the mode of forming it by the Brigade: Suppoſing the Three Battalions equal in numbers, it may be executed by the Third forming the front; Five Companies of the Firſt, and Five Companies of the Second, the ſides; and the reſidue of theſe Corps, the rear: or, if it is wiſhed to make the ſquare more equilateral, the Grenadiers and Seven Battalion Companies of the Third, may be placed in front: but the other mode is more ſimple, and is therefore detailed as the beſt. The Brigade, at the cloſe of the Thirteenth Manœuvre, was ſtanding in Line. Fig. 84. The Brigadier proceeds to place the Three Corps in a hollow ſquare.
(Section 207.) Form a Hollow Square on the Third Battalion. - - - - -	Repeated. - - -	The Major of Brigade is ſent to inform the Commandants of Corps what portions fill the different faces before the foregoing order is given, unleſs this has been previouſly arranged.
	Companies, Four Paces on your —— backwards wheel. Quick March.	
About Face. - - -	Right about face.	
March. - - - - -	March. - - - - -	The different Commandants give the neceſſary cautions beforehand; the Officer commanding the Third, in particular directs it to ſtand faſt. The Companies of the Firſt Battalion wheel back four paces on the Left (Fig. 85); and thoſe of the Second, four paces on the Right: they face to the Right about on receiving the order for that purpoſe; and on the word March, proceed in Echellon of Companies to form the Square: each Commandant gives the orders to his own Companies, taking the time from the regulating Battalion: the different Companies arrange themſelves as directed by the Brigadier; thoſe who form the ſides, receive from their reſpective Captains, as they approach their ſtations, the order—Right Shoulders, or Left Shoulders forward, as may be neceſſary to bring them ſquare with their poſitions; when they are halted and fronted, or faced to the Right about. Thoſe Companies who form the rear face, are halted and wheeled into their poſitions; when they alſo front or face to the Right about. Fig. 86. The Colours of the different Battalions retire within the Square, which renders it neceſſary at

Fig. 84.

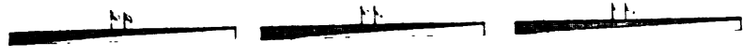


Fig. 85.

Fig.86.

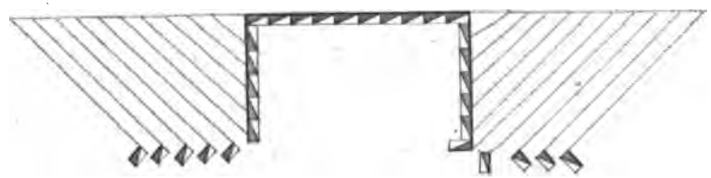
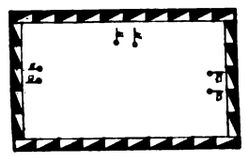


Fig.87.



The Brigade in a hollow Square.

Fig.86.

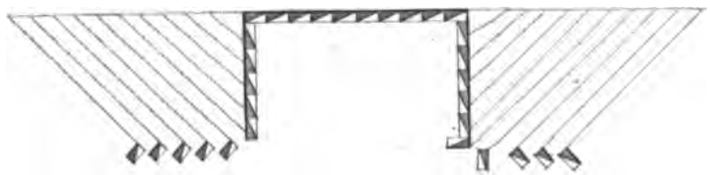
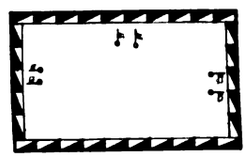


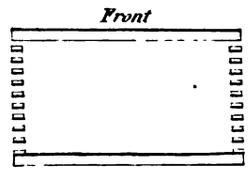
Fig.87.



The Brigade in a hollow Square.

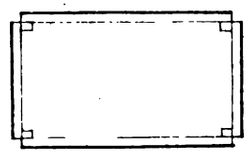
Plate 47.

Fig. 88.



The Brigade in a hollow Square, with its sides wheeled into Subdivisions, and its rear faced to the right about ready to move.

Fig. 89.



The Square with the Subdivisions at the Angles wheeled back.

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
		the commencement of the formation, that the front face ſhould cloſe in towards the center, ſo as to fill up the vacuum occaſioned by its Colours falling back. The Brigadier, Field Officers, and all ſupernumeraries, move into the interior of the Square; when the whole will ſtand as in Fig. 87. The Flank Companies are kept in reſerve, if neceſſary.
		Movements of the Square.
		In a Square formed of Three Battalions, where the Companies of the different Corps are ſo intermingled, it ſeems neceſſary, to prevent confuſion, that the Brigadier ſhould give the orders himſelf, without being repeated: or perhaps, what would anſwer better, that each Commandant of a Battalion ſhould take a face; and that another Officer ſhould be named to command the fourth; the whole taking the time from the Commandant of the regulating Corps, which ought, in this inſtance, to be a Flank one. The Brigadier puts the Square in motion.
The Square will advance by its front Face. - - - - -	Repeated.	
	By Subdiviſions, to the —— wheel. - -	The Commandant of the Right Face, ſays, Left wheel: the Commandant of the Left, ſays, Right wheel.
	Quick, March.	
	Rear Face, to the Right about. - - - - -	On the words "Quick March," theſe Two Faces wheel forward into Subdiviſions of Companies; and at the ſame inſtant the Rear Face goes to the Right about; when the whole ſtand as in Fig. 88. If there is no Commandant for the Rear Face, it goes to the Right about, without orders, on the ſides receiving the command "Quick March."
March. - - - - -	March. - - - - -	The whole move on.
		When the Brigadier thinks the Square has advanced enough,
Halt, Front. - - -	Halt—Front Square. -	The whole halt; the Subdiviſions wheel back into their former poſitions; and the Rear Face again goes to the Right about. By whatever Face the Square moves, the ſame proceſs takes place. The Front Face, in the firſt inſtance, ſtands faſt; the ſides wheel up by Right and Left into Subdiviſions of Companies; and the Rear Face goes to the Right about: the whole is then put in motion.

The

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	General Explanations.
		The Brigadier, whenever the Square fronts, may direct the two Flank Subdiviſions of each Face, to wheel back the quarter circle, and thereby obtain a croſs fire for the purpoſe of ſtrengthening the angles, which are the weak points. See Fig. 89. The Regulations no where mention that the angular movement of the Square is ever reſorted to by larger bodies than the ſingle Battalion; it is therefore not detailed. The Square may fire in any way the Brigadier directs; but File firing is the moſt material, as being ſuppoſed to have a better effect than any other in keeping Cavalry at a diſtance; in this Fire the Front Rank of all the Faces kneel and ſlope their bayonets, the others keep a continued and ſcattered fire over their heads. The great art is to make the fire conſtant; for ſhould it ſlacken, in conſequence of too quick a diſcharge at the firſt, it muſt be expected that the Cavalry will then come on with redoubled fury. The Brigadier proceeds to form Line.
Form Line on the front Face. - - - - -	Repeated. - - -	The Commandant of the front Face cautions it to ſtand faſt, thoſe of the right and left Faces, that they are to wheel forward four paces to right and left by Companies, and the Commandant of the rear Face cautions it that the Companies are to make a wheel and a half outwards.
	By Companies, right wheel.	
	Quick March.	
March. - - - - -	March. - - - - -	The whole move in Echellon to their poſitions. When the leading Diviſions of the Firſt and Second Battalions touch the Line, they are wheeled or placed accurately in it by their Adjutants, and all the other Diviſions form on them, by receiving from their reſpective Captains "Shoulders forward:"—The Brigade is in Line, Fig. 90.

Obſervations on the Hollow Square.

If a large body formed Square, each face would be compriſed of ſeveral battalions. , Fig. 91.

The Hollow Square is a formation which Infantry occaſionally take as a defence againſt Cavalry in open ground, but the Regulations ſay, if, when ſo formed, they were to be attacked by a ſuperior body of Infantry and guns, their ſituation would be deſperate; indeed this is ſelf-evident, from the weakneſs of the angles, and the enfilade they would be every way expoſed to. The Regulations make mention of an Oblong, which, from the ſimplicity of the formation, and eaſe in regaining the former order of march, ſeems extremely applicable to actual ſervice. In croſſing plains where attacks from Cavalry are loooked for, the Column of march on entering the open grounds cloſes to half diſtance, a ſpace equal to half the front of a Company being left between each Battalion, if there are no guns, and a ſpace equal to the whole front of a Company if there are guns. Should an attack of Cavalry take place, on the command, "By Companies from the Center outwards wheel," the whole wheel outwards,

Fig 90.

Fig 91.

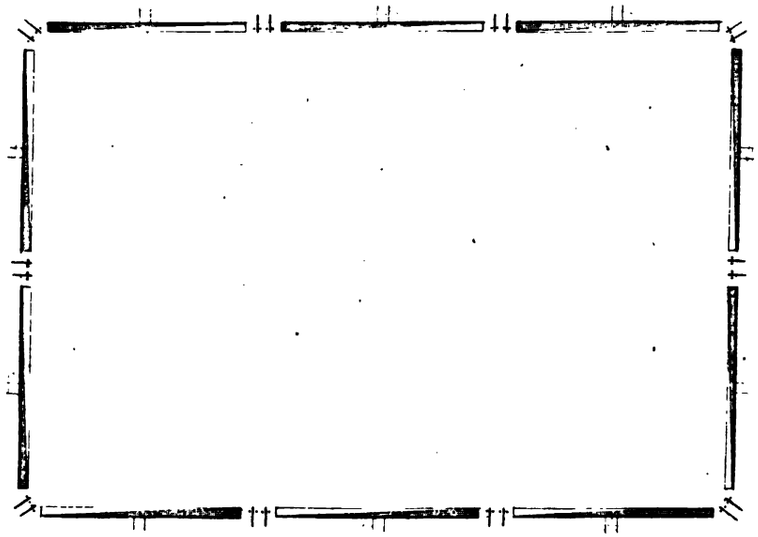


Fig 92.

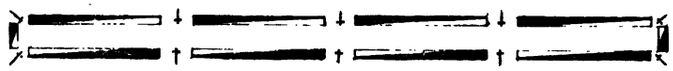
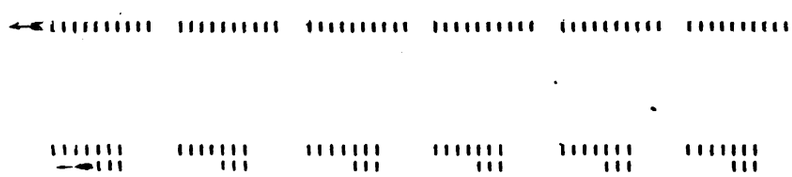


Fig 93.



wards, except the front Company, which ſtands faſt, and except the rear Company, which cloſes up to that preceding it, and faces to the right about, ſee Fig. 92; or the front Company of each Battalion may ſtand faſt, and the rear Company of each Corps face to the right about, the field pieces pointed outwards. The front rank, all round the figure, comes to the ſlope, the others commence file firing over their heads. On the command, "Form Column," the whole wheel back into their former ſtations, the rear Company goes to the right about, and the Column is again ready to proceed on the march.

The Regulations juſtly obſerve, that though a detail can be given how one portion of Troops may form the Square, yet ſuch mode will not apply in all inſtances, for numbers, circumſtances of ground, and the ideas of Commanding Officers, muſt be taken into the calculation.

It is not very probable, that a body having a regular ſecond Line, would think of throwing itſelf into a Square; if it did, the beſt plan appears to be, that the Battalions of the Second Line ſhould each Countermarch on its Center, and that the other faces ſhould be formed by Corps from both Lines. If an Army was moving in Columns of Lines acroſs plains, and expected to be aſſailed by heavy bodies of Cavalry, it would be prudent that the Battalions compoſing the Column of the Second Line, ſhould each bring its rear Wing to the Front, ſee Fig. 93. Thus the two Columns would lead with oppoſite Flanks, and the Lines produced by wheeling up, would, of courſe, face outwards.

FIFTEENTH MANŒUVRE.

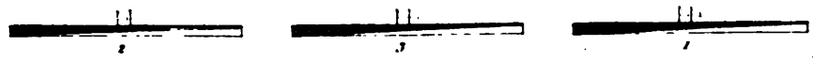
Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
		If the Light Infantry cover the retreat, ſee Twelfth Manœuvre.
The Line will retire.	The Battalion will retire.	
About Face. - -	About Face. - - -	See Twelfth Manœuvre for Light Infantry Signals.
March. - - - - -	March. - - - - -	The whole move to the rear.
		When the Line has retired a given diſtance,
(Page 434.) File to the Rear from the proper Right of Companies. - -	Repeated. - - -	Each Captain of a Company ſays, "Company, Left turn—Files, Right wheel." The different Companies turn to the left, and each leads in a Column of Files to the rear, as in Fig. 94.
		When the Brigadier ſees the whole of the Companies moving in File,
Quick March. - -	Quick March. - -	The whole move on at quick time.
		When the Brigadier thinks they have retired enough,
Halt, Front. - - -	Halt, Front. - - -	The whole halt and front; the Brigade ſtands in open Column of Companies, Right in front.
Wheel into Line. -	To the Left wheel into Line.	
	Quick March. - -	The whole wheel into Line. Fig. 95.

Remarks on the Fifteenth Manœuvre.

The Fifteenth Manœuvre points out the mode in which a body of troops retiring in Line and meeting with a wood or other obſtacle to their progreſs in that formation, would paſs it by filing from the proper right of Companies, and having gained the oppoſite ſide, how they would front in open Column, and again wheel into Line; if the Line, however, was preſſed by an Enemy, it would paſs ſuch obſtacles in Columns of Companies and not by files. Filing is alſo the manner in which one Line retires through another. When the moving Line arrives within fifteen or twenty paces of the halted one, it files to the Rear from the proper right of Companies, and the halted Line makes ſmall openings for the different Columns of Files to paſs through; or the halted Line may wheel back into open Column of Companies, which will enable the moving Line to paſs through it without filing or altering its formation. Where a firſt Line retires in good order, the filing will perhaps be the beſt

Fig 94.

Fig 95.



beſt mode, as leaving the ſecond Line ready formed to oppoſe the enemy, the inſtant the firſt is through; but if the firſt Line retires in confuſion, it would be adviſeable that the ſecond Line ſhould wheel into open Column for fear of the crowd breaking in on its ranks. As ſoon as the firſt Line is through, the ſecond again wheels into Line to oppoſe the Enemy. Armies are uſually in two Lines, and this mode of one retiring through the other ſeems the ſafeſt of all poſſible methods by which a retreat may be effected; for the enemy, ſeeing that he is to be oppoſed by freſh troops, naturally moves on with caution, that his ranks may be compact: and this enables the firſt Line to form in the Rear, and to allow the ſecond Line to retire through it in turn, if neceſſity requires; this may be repeated till they reach a ſituation where they can maintain their ground, or till circumſtances will admit of breaking up and moving off in Columns of march. In the above Manœuvre the Second Line would follow exactly the ſame proceſs as the Firſt. See Remarks on Sixteenth Manœuvre.

SIXTEENTH MANŒUVRE.

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
		The Brigade is in Line parallel to the original position.
(Section 201.) The Line will advance.	The Line will advance.	If the Light Infantry cover the advance, the signal sounds "To form Company;" and on the word to advance, the signal sounds to form in front. (See Twelfth Manœuvre.)
March. - - - -	March. - - - -	The whole move on, each Battalion dressing by its own center, and directing its march by the regulating corps.
Advance in Files from the Right of Companies. - - - -	Repeated. - - -	Each Officer commanding a Company, says, "Company to the Right turn: By Files, to the Left wheel." The different Companies face to the Right, and then lead in Files to the front; in the same way they filed to the rear in the Fifteenth Manœuvre, only there they were retiring, and here they are advancing.
		When the whole has advanced a given distance,
Quick March. - -	Quick March. - -	The whole move on at Quick Time.
Halt.		
Front. - - - -	Halt.	
	Front. - - - - -	The whole halt and front in Open Column, Left in front.
Wheel into Line. -	To the Right, Wheel into Line.	
	Quick March. - -	The Battalions wheel into Line.
		The Brigadier directs the Line to fire from Center to Flanks of Battalions, or as he thinks fit.
The Line will advance.	The Line will advance.	
March. - - - -	March. - - - -	Covered by Light Infantry.
Halt. - - - -	Halt. - - - - -	The whole halt. Signal for Light Infantry to form in the rear.
(Section 205.) Advance by Wings. -	Advance by Wings. -	The Light Infantry cover the Left Wings at half distance: they dress with the Right Wings, and fire advancing. The Right Wings always advance first, unless ordered to the contrary.
Right Wings—March.	Right Wing—March.	The Right Wings are accompanied by the King's Colour of their respective Battalions; dress by the Left; and the whole by the Wing of the regulating Battalion.
Halt. - - - - -	Halt. - - - - -	The whole halt. Signal for Light Infantry to cease firing. The number of paces which the Wings advance alternately may be previously communicated.
		Fire.

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	General Explanations.
Fire. - - - - -	Right Wing—Ready, Preſent, Fire. -	The Light Infantry move to the Right and cover the Right Wings; before which they range themſelves and commence firing. The time of firing to be taken from the regulating Wing.
Left Wings—March.	Left Wing—March.	The moment the Right Wings fire, the word March is given to the Left ones. When they paſs the Right Wings, the Light Infantry move on in a Line with them, and fire advancing.
Halt. - - - - -	Halt. - - - - -	They halt. Signal for Light Infantry to ceaſe firing.
Fire. - - - - -	Left Wing — Ready, Preſent, Fire. -	The Light Infantry cover the Left Wings, and commence firing.
Form Line. - - -	Right Wing form Line.	When the Brigadier wiſhes the Line to be formed,
March. - - - -	March. - - - -	They move on into Line with the Left Wings. Signal for Light Infantry to form in the rear of the Second and Seventh Companies when they have done ſo.

Remarks on the Sixteenth Manœuvre.

The Sixteenth Manœuvre points out the way in which the Line of an Army advances on an Enemy, and meeting with difficulties of ground to its progreſs in that formation, it files to the front from the right of Companies, and again wheels into Line when the impediments are paſt, it again moves on in Line, and then, for the purpoſe, we ſhall ſuppoſe, of keeping up a more conſtant fire, it next advances by wings of Battalions. Filing to the front is adviſed where a rear Line paſſes through a front one; or the front Line may wheel back into open Column, and allow the rear one to paſs through without filing or altering its formation; the latter ſeems the beſt method, as the rear Line is thus enabled to proceed at once againſt the enemy. In this mannner freſh troops may be brought up when thoſe in front fail. In this Evolution the ſecond Line would follow the firſt, and file as above detailed where found neceſſary.

Line, whether advancing, retiring, or ſtationary, is the moſt important of all formations; it is the one almoſt conſtantly aſſumed by the body acting on the defenſive; and where ground will admit, almoſt equally ſo by thoſe that attack. The Commander of the Line is generally near the regulating Battalion; and by its movements guides the whole. The ſubordinate Generals watch over their reſpective Diviſions;—the poſitions of the Brigadiers ſhould uſually be behind the Flank of their reſpective Brigades which is next to the general regulating Battalion of the Line: for from that ſide muſt all general inſtructions come; and in that poſition are the Brigadiers moſt capable of ſeeing that theſe inſtructions are immediately taken up. Each Commander of a Battalion is behind its Center, the Adjutant on the Flank next the regulating Battalion, the Major on the oppoſite. When Marching in Line, the Adjutant reports to his Commandant how the Battalion is moving, if falling behind the others, the Commandant directs the regulating Serjeants to ſtep out; if getting a-head, they are ordered to ſtep ſhort; if crouding towards, or opening from the regulating Battalion, the neceſſary ſhoulder is thrown forwards.

The Light Infantry, when covering a Line, whether advancing or retiring, take their movements from the Light Company belonging to the regulating Battalion, with whom a perſon is ſtationed, by the Commander of the Line, to make the neceſſary ſignals.

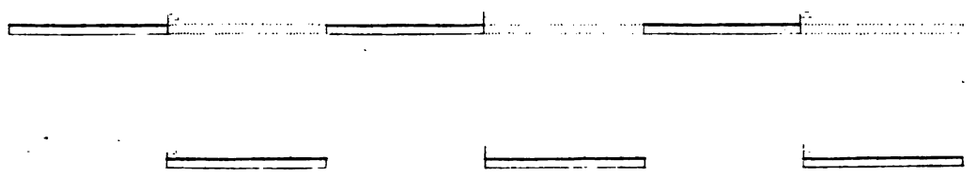
SEVENTEENTH MANŒUVRE.

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
The Line will advance.	Repeated.	
March. - - - - -	March. - - - - -	Covered by Light Infantry if thought adviſeable.
Halt. - - - - - -	Halt. - - - - - -	The Line halts. Signal for Light Infantry to form in the rear.
Fire a Volley and Port Arms. - - - -	Fire a Volley and Port Arms. Ready, Preſent, Fire.	Inſtructions will be given as to the fire on ſervice, each Corps would fire by command from its Colonel, and the whole as nearly together as poſſible.
The Line will advance.	The Line will advance.	
Quick March. - -	Quick March. - -	The whole move on at quick time with ported arms, or at a ſteady run if circumſtances require.
Charge Bayonets.	Charge. - - - -	The whole charge bayonets when cloſing with the enemy.
Forwards. - - -	Forwards. - - -	The whole move on with redoubled energy.
Halt. - - - - - -	Halt. - - - - - -	The whole halt. Signal for Light Infantry to cover the Line whilſt loading. When the Line has loaded, ſignal for Light Infantry to form Company in rear of the center, and again to form on the left of their reſpective Battalions.
Load. - - - -	Prime and Load. -	

Remarks on the Seventeenth Manœuvre.

This Manœuvre was formerly conſidered as part of the Sixteenth, but is now ſeparated from it and called the Seventeenth; it points out the mode in which the Line of an Army advances on an Enemy, on a near approach it halts to fire a volley, with the view of confuſing him, and covered by the ſmoke, moves rapidly on at the Port; cloſing thus with its adverſary it comes to the Charge and ruſhes forwards with its bayonets. In the above Manœuvre the ſecond Line would merely follow and cover the firſt, or if the firſt Line was foiled, it might allow it to paſs through, and then renew the attack.

Fig 96.



EIGHTEENTH MANŒUVRE.

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
		The Brigade is in Line. If the Light Infantry are to be employed as a covering party during the Eighteenth Manœuvre, they form Company.
(Section 203.) The Line will retire.	Repeated.	
About Face. - - -	About Face. - - -	Signal for Light Infantry, ſee Twelfth Manœuvre.
March. - - - -	March. - - - -	The Line, having faced about, moves to the Rear.
		When the Brigadier thinks it has retired enough,
Halt, Front. - - -	Halt, Front. - - -	The whole Halt and Front. The Light Infantry ceaſe firing and form in the Rear: If the Line was hard preſſed by the Enemy, and fronted to reſiſt him, they would gain their poſitions on the left of their repective Corps, as quick as poſſible.
		When the Brigadier ſees the Light Infantry in the Rear,
(Section 205.) Retire by Wings.	Retire by Wings.	
Left Wings, about face.	Left Wing, about Face.	In advancing, the Right Wing moves firſt. In retiring, the Left moves firſt.
March. - - - -	March. - - - -	The Light Infantry cover the ſpaces quitted by the Left Wings, and commence Firing on the ſignal for that purpoſe. The whole take the time from and dreſs by the Wing of the Regulating Battalion.
Halt, Front. - - -	Halt, Front. - - -	Signal for Light Infantry to ceaſe Firing.
Right Wings, Fire. -	Right Wing, Ready, Preſent, Fire.	
About Face.	About Face.	
March. - - - -	March. - - - -	The Light Infantry face to the Right and cover the Right Wings, they Fire retiring, till they come in a Line with the Left Wings, when they keep their ground and continue firing. See Fig. 96.
Halt, Front. - - -	Halt, Front, Load. -	Signal for the Light Infantry to ceaſe firing ſo ſoon as the Right Wings have loaded.
Left Wings, Fire. -	Left Wing, Ready, Preſent, Fire. -	The Light Infantry face to the Left and cover the Left Wings.
About Face. - - -	About Face.	
March. - - - -	March. - - - -	The Light Infantry commence firing, and retire with them.

When

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	General Explanations.
		When the Brigadier ſees the Left Wings approaching the Right ones, and wiſhes the Retreat by Wings to ceaſe,
Form Line. - - -	Form Line.	
	Halt, Front, Load. -	The Left Wings form on the Right Wings, the Light Infantry continue firing till they have loaded, and then form in the Rear.
		When the Brigadier ſees the Line formed,
The Line will retire. -	The Battalion will retire.	
About Face.	About Face.	
March. - - - -	March. - - - -	The Line moves to the Rear covered by Light Infantry.
Halt, Front. - - -	Halt, Front. - - -	The whole Halt and Front, the Light Infantry ceaſe firing, form in the Rear, and afterwards on the Left of their reſpective Battalions. The Light Infantry practice has been detailed, but they may either be employed as a covering party or not, as is thought beſt by the Commanding Officer.

Obſervations on the Eighteenth Manœuvre.

This was formerly the Seventeenth, but now termed the Eighteenth Manœuvre; it ſhews how a Line of Troops retiring before an Enemy, would continue the Retreat by Wings, if circumſtances were to occur which would render ſuch mode of Retreat eligible.

The Eighteenth Manœuvre alſo points out how a Line of Troops perform the Chequered Retreat by alternate Battalions, (Section 207.) in which the ſame proceſs takes place, with this addition, that the Corps compoſing the Diviſion, for the time, next the Enemy, wheel back their flank Companies four paces, ſo as to cover their Flanks and create a croſs fire. The Diviſion, for the time, fartheſt from the Enemy, when it firſt Fronts, only wheels back the flank Company on the Right and the flank Company on the Left of the whole Diviſion; but when the Battalions compoſing the other Diviſion, by paſſing to the Rear, leave it next the Enemy, the whole flank Companies are wheeled back. Each Diviſion of Battalions, before retiring, wheels forward all its flank Companies, or, if the two outer ones of the whole are ordered to maintain their Flank poſition, they march in File. See Fig. 97.

Section 203, paragraph 6.—If a Line, formed three deep, wiſhed to lengthen out its Front, by forming two deep, to prevent being outflanked, the rear rank would wheel backwards into ſubdiviſions towards the flank to be extended. The laſt rank of each Company cloſes to the firſt; officers are appointed from the rear: the whole cloſe up to their proper diſtance in open Coſumn, then move, and form on the flank; the rear rank of every two Corps will thus give a front equal to a Battalion. In the above Manœuvre the Second Line would retire at the ſame time with the firſt, and the one might paſs through the other, if thought neceſſary—which is the ſimpleſt and beſt of all modes of Retreat where there are two Lines.

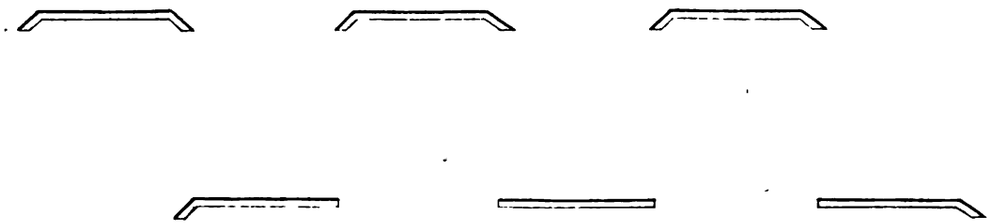


Fig. 97.

Page 56.

NINETEENTH MANŒUVRE.

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
(Section 201.)		
The Line will advance.	The Line will advance.	
March. - - - - -	March. - - - - -	The Line moves on.
Halt. - - - - - -	Halt. - - - - - -	The whole halt.
Fire a Volley obliquely to the Right. - -	To the Right oblique. Ready, Preſent, Fire. -	On actual Service all ſuch Fires, whether of Battalions or Wings, would be as nearly a Volley as poſſible; but, in Parade Duties, on account of effect, a pauſe between the fire of each may be admitted.
Front. - - - - -	Front. - - - - -	The Line ſtanding with their bodies oblique, bring them ſquare to the front.
Fire a Volley obliquely to the Left. - -	Left oblique. Ready, Preſent, Fire.	
Front. - - - - -	Front. - - - - -	The whole Front.
The Line will advance.	The Line will advance.	
March. - - - - -	March. - - - - -	The Line moves on.
Halt. - - - - - -	Halt. - - - - - -	The whole Halt.
Fire a Volley. - -	Fire a Volley. Ready, Preſent, Fire.	The different Battalions fire each a Volley.
Fire a Volley, and Port Arms. - - - - -	Fire a Volley, and Port Arms. Ready, Preſent, Fire.	The whole Fire and come to the Port.
Half Cock, and Shoulder. - - - - - -	Half Cock Arms. Shut Pans. Shoulder Arms. - -	The whole come to the Shoulder.
Take Open Order. -	Rear Ranks take Open Order. Quick March. - -	The whole take Open Order. The Colonels diſmount, and take poſt in Front of the Center. The Brigadier takes poſt oppoſite the Center of the Brigade, on horſeback, or rather without diſmounting.

Directions by the Brigadier.	*Orders by Commandants of Battalions.*	GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.
The Line will advance.	The Line will advance.	
March. - - - - -	March. - - - - -	The whole move on, Muſic playing. When the Brigadier thinks the Line near enough to his Majeſty, or the Reviewing General.
Halt. - - - - - -	Halt. - - - - - -	The whole Halt.
Preſent Arms. - -	Preſent Arms. - -	The whole preſent Arms, all the Officers ſalute, and the Muſic plays " God ſave the King."
Shoulder Arms. - -	Shoulder Arms. - -	The whole Shoulder.
Order Arms, and ſtand at caſe. - - - - -	Order Arms. Stand at eaſe. - -	The whole Order and ſtand at caſe. Here ends the Nineteenth and laſt Manœuvre.

Obſervations on the Nineteenth Maœnuvre.

The Nineteenth, formerly the Eighteenth Manœuvre, ſhews how Troops advancing in Line are halted, and an oblique fire commenced. An oblique fire, however, cannot be neceſſary for more than a ſmall portion of a conſiderable Line at one time on actual Service. It is chiefly uſed againſt an Enemy attempting to turn a Flank; on Charges of Cavalry directed againſt adjoining Corps, &c. The latter part of the Nineteenth Manœuvre points out how a Line advances firing Vollies, and being the laſt of the Manœuvres, it ends with a Parade Compliment to the Reviewing General, this Manœuvre therefore uſually finiſhes all Reviews.

In the above Manœuvre, the Second Line would follow in rear of the Firſt.

GENERAL

GENERAL EXPLANATIONS.

A FEW general obſervations on the principles and ſcience of war may not be thought foreign to the preſent ſubject, becauſe they will be found to elucidate the purpoſes to which the foregoing Tactics are applied; but, before proceeding to them, it will be neceſſary minutely to point out how the movements and evolutions of the ſingle Brigade, as detailed under the heads of the Nineteen preceding evolutions, combine with and exemplify thoſe of larger bodies.

We ſhall ſuppoſe an Army, whoſe front Line conſiſts of twenty-four Battalions, that theſe are divided into eight Brigades, each conſiſting of three Battalions; into four Diviſions, each conſiſting of ſix Battalions; and into two Wings, each conſiſting of twelve Battalions; a regulating Battalion is named, near which the Commander of the line generally poſts himſelf; all the other Commanders are with their reſpective Diviſions.

If it is wiſhed, as pointed out in the three firſt Manœuvres, to form ſeveral cloſe Columns of parts of the ſame Line (ſee Section 190 of his Majeſty's Regulations), the Aids de Camp and detached officers ſhoot along the Line with the Chief's orders to this effect; ſo that the movement is perfectly underſtood before it begins. This being done, the Commandant of the Regulating Battalion, by orders from the Chief, loudly announces on what Company or Diviſion each Battalion Column is to form; the Battalions along the Line inſtantly repeat the order, and the Brigadiers again loudly announce it, if not immediately taken up by thoſe under their reſpective commands. Each Commandant of a Battalion faces and forms his Diviſions on the named one, and the whole Line is thrown into twenty-four Battalion Columns. The Regulating Battalion announces the ſpecies of Column next to be taken up; this order paſſes as before, and on the commands "*Face—Quick March*," alſo paſſing, the Battalions, except the one on which each Column is to form, face, and move; thus the Line may be thrown into eight Columns, each conſiſting of a Brigade; into four, each conſiſting of a Diviſion; into two, each conſiſting of a Wing; or into one, conſiſting of the whole Line; the Brigadiers and ſuperior Officers acting as repeaters and explainers: therefore, whether it is a Brigade or a Line, the orders iſſued by the Chief of either, as well as the mode of execution, would be the ſame; and in the ſame way would the whole again extend into Line. The diſtance between the different Columns would prevent the orders communicated to the one, being heard by the others, but detached officers carry the general inſtruction, and the inſtant the commanders of them ſee the Diviſion where the Chief is, or thoſe between him and them, face and move, they alſo face and move their reſpective Corps.

If it is wiſhed that a Column ſhould take up a new alignment, halt its head, and throw its rear Battalions into it, as exemplified by the Fourth Manœuvre; the Chief directs at what point the head ſhall enter, and after a given number of Battalions have done ſo, he orders "*Halt*," this paſſes rapidly along the Column, each Brigadier repeating, if neceſſary: The Chief next orders, "*Form in the new Alignment*," this paſſes along the Column as before. The Battalion that files, faces and throws out its pivots, by order from its own Commandant; the leading Company of all the others which have not entered, is directed to wheel by its reſpective Commander; and "*Quick March*," paſſing from the Chief, ſets the whole who have not entered, in motion.

If a Line is thrown back on a flank Diviſion, as exemplified by the Fifth Manœuvre, the General Inſtruction is announced; the left flank Diviſion is wheeled back into the new Line, and each Commandant wheels his Companies back half the named paces; the general inſtruction to face about paſſes along the Line, the whole face to the rear; and on the command, "*March*," alſo rapidly paſſing, the whole ſtep off as nearly together as poſſible: on the ſame principles do Lines advance, retire, wheel into Column, change front, &c. &c. ſo that the orders iſſued to a Line of three Battalions, acting by itſelf, as exemplified in the Nineteen preceding Manœuvres, are the ſame as thoſe that would be iſſued to a Line of any magnitude, and the

formation and conſtruction of each evolution is alſo preciſely the ſame.

The Regulations wiſely obſerve, the larger the body, the fewer and more ſimple ought to be the Manœuvres required of it. If, therefore, Battalions were much habituated to act together in Line, moſt evolutions required of them might be executed without the neceſſity of any previous communication through detached officers. But it would not be wiſe in battle to truſt to this, where the fire of cannon and other circumſtances would interfere; on the contrary, the Regulations direct, that when any complicated or combined movement is to be made, which requires previous explanation, it muſt be communicated clearly to the Commanders of Corps by detached Officers, before it can be ordered to commence. A Line of twenty-four Battalions, with their artillery, would occupy near two miles; the Chief can ſcarcely be at either extremity, conſequently, detached Officers, if well mounted, would, at full gallop, carry his inſtructions, in five or ſix minutes, to any point of this Line; even this delay, however, threatens deſtruction in critical ſituations. In proportion, therefore, to the extent of the line, muſt the latitude of acting, in caſes of emergency, be extended to the ſuperior officers.—From the above, it will appear of what infinite importance it is that Commandants of Battalions ſhould not only rapidly repeat the general inſtruction, but that they ſhould alſo loudly announce it. No interior arrangement of their own Battalion ought, for a moment, to interfere in this great point. If Cavalry form a part of the Line, they move in uniſon with the Infantry. The Commander of the ſecond Line, after every movement, places it in the ſame relative poſition, with regard to the firſt Line, that it had before the movement commenced.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

On Encampments.

ARMIES, when the ground will admit, encamp in their natural order of battle, and fronting towards the enemy.

The out-poſts, or piquets of an army, guard all the avenues and approaches to the camp; their intent is more to give the alarm, than to make reſiſtance; they are generally beat in when attacked, but ſhould always uſe their fire before falling back.

It will ſometimes occur in defenſive poſitions, that particular approaches are to be maintained to the utmoſt; in ſuch caſes the Officers commanding them ſhould know the importance of their poſts, and aid ſhould not be far off.

On Defenſive Operations.

It will ſeldom occur that two armies oppoſed to each other can both find it their natural intereſt to act on the offenſive; when this does happen, a battle ſoon decides who has the better right.

Every General wiſhes to act on the offenſive when circumſtances warrant his doing ſo; the defenſive body, if it feels itſelf, by reinforcements or good fortune, ſuperior to its adverſary, begins to aſſume the offenſive, upon the ſame principle that the ſtronger animal attacks the weaker.

Young troops are better calculated for offenſive than defenſive operations; if a battle is to be fought, they had better make the aſſault than wait to be attacked.

Offenſive operations require ardour and valour; defenſive ones, cool collected courage.

Collection in danger can ſcarcely be acquired but by habit; an old ſoldier and a young one are equally brave; the difference is, the former has, from habit, all his wits about him in danger, the latter has not.

Generally ſpeaking, the army acting on the defenſive is the weaker; its Commander wanting confidence in his ſtrength, either avoids a battle altogether, or endeavours, by aid of ground, to make amends for diſparity of numbers.

Though generally on the defenſive, the Commander of the weaker body ſhould avail himſelf with energy of any miſtakes committed by

by his adverſary, and become for the time the aſſailant; otherwiſe the defenſive ſyſtem muſt ever prove a ruinous one: it is like the man who waits to be ſtruck before he'll ſtrike, and when he does receive the blow it perhaps knocks him down.

If he means to avoid a general action altogether, the defenſive Commander ſhould always threaten, always excite delay, always attack when a partial opportunity offers, but when ſtrongly preſſed ſhould always retire.

When an enemy advances into a country, diviſions of troops ſhould paſs in his rear, attack his convoys, and cut off his communications with his ſupplies.

The rear of a column is its weak point; attacks on this quarter excite more delay, and are more dangerous than thoſe made on the front;—If the front is attacked, the general preſſure forward of the component parts ſoon gives relief: but if the rear is aſſailed, it can only be ſupported by a retrograde movement; and a ſtoppage of the whole body is the uſual conſequence.

In the defenſive ſyſtem, if a battle is to be avoided, ground muſt be ſacrificed; and what is worſe, the enemy, by advancing upon ſome vital point, may produce the neceſſity of riſking a battle, or of ſubmitting to conſequences almoſt as diſaſtrous as the loſs of one; in this caſe the chance of war ſhould be tried.

Whether he means to avoid a general battle altogether or not, the defenſive Commander ſhould ſeize upon the ſtrong features of the country, ſuch as the banks of deep rivers, ridges of mountains, defiles, ſwamps, foreſts, woods, &c. and as he is beat from one ſhould fall back on another.

In the choice of poſitions, if the defenſive body can place a river in its front, whoſe ſtream is deep and banks are high, the aſſailants muſt find conſiderable difficulty in paſſing to the attack, from the riſk of being fallen upon in the act of croſſing. In the choice of other poſitions, the flanks are principally looked to; if theſe cannot be turned or attacked, a larger front than the one occupied by the defenders, cannot be employed with advantage againſt them.

When the ground along the front of a poſition is broken, it adds to the ſtrength; for the enemy muſt either attack in Column ſubject to enfilade; or, if he attacks in Line, that Line cannot be a compact one.

Defiles, through ridges of mountains, afford ſtrong poſitions, and add greatly to the ſtrength of a country; they are difficult to be carried, and ſtill more dangerous to be left behind by an invading enemy.

Of all poſitions thoſe moſt difficult of attack are ſuch as have only a few narrow approaches, where the defending General, knowing the exact points he can be aſſailed in, gives up his whole invention to their defence: ſuch poſitions are ſometimes found behind broad rivers, where the line of defence is ſhort, the ſtream rapid, and the banks rocky and high; they are alſo found among high and mountainous countries, and not unfrequently in low ſwampy ones: the annals of the world, however, tell us, there can ſcarcely be a poſition ſo ſtrong that may not be forced; two great objects are, therefore, to be conſidered in their choice; theſe are, defence againſt an enemy and a retreat in caſe of need.

When a poſition is firſt occupied, the pioneers ſhould open regular communications with the roads by which the army would naturally wiſh to retreat; and if this cannot be done the poſition is not a ſafe one.

In the choice of poſitions a reference muſt be had to the objects of the campaign, to cover the country, to cover ſupplies, to keep open a communication with other bodies acting in concert, &c.

Where a poſition is taken up, the troops occupy it in one or more lines, according to the nature of the attack, for in this formation they can throw moſt fire upon their enemy, and receive leaſt damage from his.

When a defenſive poſition is taken up, the Line will more generally be curved than ſtraight, that it may follow and embrace the ſtrength of the ground.

The flanks of a Line are its weak points, and in a defenſive poſition ſhould always be well covered.

If a defenſive poſition, in following the ſtrength of the ground, forms an angle ſalient or projecting towards the enemy, it is a weak point, and, unleſs nature has previouſly done ſo, ſhould be ſtrengthened.

A defenſive Commander ſhould ſtudy thoſe parts of his poſition moſt fatal to him if carried by an enemy, and provide, as far as poſſible, againſt the evil; for, otherwiſe, in one or more of them muſt he expect to be aſſailed, if oppoſed by a man of ſcience.

When it is diſcovered upon what wing an enemy preſſes, a flank attack on that ſide ought to be expected, and provided againſt if poſſible; where great ſuperiority of numbers is againſt the defenders, they muſt look to be preſſed at all points.

To nothing does the bundle of ſticks, in the fable, more forcibly apply, than war:—together we are ſtrong, apart we are weak; this principle is known to all profeſſional men, and yet, perhaps, to a failure in applying it, may be attributed more miſchief than to any circumſtance in the whole circle of military events.

Though extenſion is generally dangerous againſt an enemy who remains in a concentrated ſtate, and ought to be made with the utmoſt caution and foreſight, yet the component parts of hoſtile armies can ſcarcely reſemble each other ſo minutely, as to make it their reciprocal intereſt to purſue a ſimilar conduct: if it is the intereſt of the one to concentrate, it will generally be the intereſt of the other, by gradually detaching, to draw its adverſary, if poſſible, into extenſion: the time and mode of doing it, are what demonſtrate the ability of a General.

When

When the Battalions of an Army are totally routed, and fly on all ſides, without order or connection, it is evidently the intereſt of their opponent to extend, for thus will he puſh them to the utmoſt, and embrace at once a variety of objects; to each of which his whole collective power is unneceſſary; it is equally evident, that if his enemies begin again to gather ſtrength, he ought proportionably to concentrate.

When armies are equal in numbers, the lighter and more active body will always derive advantage from extenſion, if they can draw their adverſary into a ſimilar poſition, for, when an opening offers, they will more rapidly concentrate a ſtrong force upon a weak point than he can.

If cavalry are employed againſt infantry, it is the intereſt of the infantry to keep together, whilſt the cavalry ſhould endeavour, by a predatory warfare, to draw them into extenſion, from the facility with which they might afterwards contract their whole force upon any poſition of their enemy, before aid could reach it.

If troops are of the ſame deſcription, extenſion can ſcarcely be the intereſt of the ſmaller numbers.

Generally ſpeaking, no defenſive poſition can be a good one which requires much extenſion of the troops; ſuch a poſition may be occupied from neceſſity, but ſeldom ought to be from choice.

An extended poſition may appear ſtrong from its natural defences, but numbers will uſually ſurmount ſuch obſtacles. The enemy, whilſt he feigns an attack on all points, brings a powerful force on one, aſſiſtance comes too late—he overpowers this one before the others can give their aid. This is the drawback to all poſitions behind rivers, where the banks to be defended are extenſive, and to all lines of defence and cordons, where the ſpace to be covered greatly exceeds the concentrated front of the defending body: the enemy, by threatening more points than one, draws them from neceſſity into extenſion, and concentrating a ſtrong impetus upon one point, that point gives way before him.

As already obſerved, extenſion in a defenſive ſtate, may be impelled upon us from neceſſity, but ſeldom ought to be the reſult of choice; it does not however appear, that a defending General can prevent it, if required to cover a given Line of much greater length than his own front occupies in a concentrated ſtate. An adverſary is either ſuperior in force, or he has no right to think of invaſion: if ſuperior in force, he detaches a ſmall part of this force, which threatens to penetrate the given Line by another route; the defending General muſt detach to counteract this threat, or it will actually be put in execution; another detachment is made, and another muſt be ſent to counteract it; thus extenſion takes place, from policy on the one ſide, and neceſſity on the other.

When neighbouring kingdoms draw together hoſtile armies on their frontiers, how far the one acting on the defenſive ought, in policy, to cover a long extended Line by ſplitting its forces into diviſions, at a diſtance from each other, becauſe its adverſary threatens more points than one; or how far the country at large might not be more ſecurely covered, even if he does ſo threaten, by keeping one concentrated force ready to act upon any point, though partial inroads ſhould be the conſequence, are queſtions not eaſily determined: but certainly, if it could be avoided, ſplitting into diviſions at a diſtance from each other, ſeems very ruinous to the inferior body.

The power of armies does not increaſe in the ratio of numerical figures, the greater the body collected together, the greater difficulty of combining its efforts with proportionate effect. Concentrate 60,000 men in a ſtrong poſition, and they have not much to fear from 80,000; for the ground fights with them; and wherever the main preſſure falls, aid is at hand; but if 60,000 men are ſplit into various diviſions, at a diſtance from one another, on a long extended Line; their adverſary who has 80,000, can afford equal numbers to counteract each; who, taking ſtrong defenſive poſitions, cannot be attacked with reaſonable hopes of ſucceſs by their immediate opponents: after all this he has ſtill a reſerve of 20,000, to throw upon any point of the whole Line, in conjunction with thoſe before oppoſed to this point, and wherever he throws this preponderance of force, he naturally looks to be ſucceſsful, for aid is at a diſtance from thoſe it falls on: if the inferior body only detaches in the ratio of its original ſtrength, that is, as three is to four, matters would be nearly where they were; ſuppoſing their opponent fool enough to allow them to remain ſo, but he will act otherwiſe, he will ſuddenly concentrate upon one point ſix or ſeven to every three, before there is time or intelligence to counteract him, and yet leave his remaining poſitions equal numbers to defend themſelves: if the defenſive body attempts to do the ſame, they may draw together upon one point ſix or ſeven to his three; but in doing this, they muſt leave their other poſitions only at the rate of two to four; ſo that while they beat him on one point, he may beat them on all the others.

In arranging his force, the defenſive General ought to pay due attention to their different orders; the cavalry are drawn up where the ground is open, hard, and beſt calculated for them to act, either in aiding the infantry, by a ſudden attack, in ſeizing the advantage if the enemy is repulſed, or in covering the retreat if he proves ſucceſsful.

When cavalry is inferior in numbers to the cavalry of an enemy, they ſhould be ſupported by the fire of infantry and artillery.

The Battalion guns, in battle, are with their different corps, all the others are placed in commanding poſitions, or held in reſerve to act upon any point that may require their ſupport.

The artillery, in commanding poſitions, and particularly on the flanks, ſhould be covered by ſteady troops. The woods and incloſed

incloſed parts of a poſition, are lined with rifle men and ſharp ſhooters.

A reſerve of choice troops ought to be kept in a central poſition, ready to aid any point that is preſſed; and an eaſy communication made between the various parts of the poſition, ſo that aid may readily circulate from one to another.

The Generals, before a battle, are inſtructed by what routes they are to carry off their diviſions in caſe of diſaſter, and where the whole are again to reaſſemble.

In proportion to the obſtinacy of the defence, is the difficulty of carrying off the troops increaſed: a Commander, after he begins to deſpair of ſucceſs, will be guided in this obſtinacy by the value annexed to his poſition, and the conſequence that will follow its loſs.

Generally ſpeaking, a retreat ſhould be ordered whilſt there are reaſonable hopes of making it effectual; but no poſition ſhould be lightly given up; for the name of defeat operates ſtrongly on the minds of the troops.

On the approach of an enemy againſt a poſition, every exertion is made to diſcover his intentions, and as ſoon as it is aſcertained upon what particular part he chiefly aims, the reſerve uſually moves to this part.

When an enemy's deſigns are completely underſtood, ſometimes even portions of the firſt Line are weakened, to reinforce the points attacked, to take in flank the enemy, or to recover poſts that are loſt.

Whether the enemy advances to the attack in Line, or, from the nature of the ground, comes on in Column, the moſt inceſſant fire is kept up upon him: if in column, much exertion ſhould be uſed in bringing as many cannon as poſſible to enfilade their advance, and to excite a croſs fire; in this, as well as other emergencies, the flying artillery would be particularly uſeful.

When the Columns of an Enemy advance to an attack, any ſudden movement threatening their flanks, would have a very happy effect: the defending body ſhould not conſider itſelf altogether fixed to its poſition, but if, by throwing forward one part, or changing another, it is hoped to diſconcert the enemy, theſe ſhould be attempted: if the defenders remain always paſſive, they will generally be worſted; it is ſudden and unexpected changes that derange the plans of an enemy, put him to his ſhifts, and uſually lead to his diſcomfiture: it is in this way that the great warriors of the earth have always conquered. New ideas, planned with ability, and executed with promptitude, uſually ſucceed; it is like a rencounter with a left-handed man, we are unacquainted with his thruſts, and are therefore run through the body.

If a part of a poſition is overpowered, it may be thrown back to another, but every exertion ſhould be uſed before the firſt ſacrifice is made, for that elates the enemy's troops and depreſſes your own.

If a portion of a poſition is to be thrown back, and the ground is open, it had beſt be done in echellon of companies; if the ground is broken, woody, or incloſed, Battalion Columns will anſwer better.

When an enemy attacks the left of a poſition with vigour, his own left will uſually be his weak point; and where a forward movement, if it could be made, would annoy him moſt; the ſame rule applies to the right; but if his attack is without vigour, his main exertion may be looked for on the other ſide.

Attacks on the flanks call for attention before all others, for they are vital parts in all poſitions.

To go into all the details of defence is impoſſible, for theſe muſt ever depend on ground, and a variety of other circumſtances, among which accident has no ſmall ſhare.

On Offenſive Operations, and Attacks.

When an invading General has aſſembled his forces on the frontier of his enemies, the ſooner he brings them to a battle the better, for he is then at the ſummit of his ſtrength; as he advances this ſtrength will diminiſh, whilſt theirs will increaſe by falling back.

The General on the offenſive, at the opening of a campaign, has uſually two objects in view; the firſt, to beat his adverſary; the ſecond, to invade a province, to poſſeſs himſelf of a city, to open a communication with ſome other army, &c.; by pointing at his ſecond he generally brings about his firſt, for the army on the defenſive, unwilling that he ſhould gain this ſecond object, poſts itſelf in his way, and thus a battle is produced.

If the defending General has the choice of his poſition, the one acting on the offenſive has within his power both the time and the mode of attacking it.

If a General, on the offenſive manages with ſagacity, he may often not only commence his attack at an unexpected hour, but may contrive to bring a ſtrong force on a weak point.

When we read of attacks all along a Line, we are not to ſuppoſe that all theſe are made with equal vigour, at leaſt, when the armies are any way equal in point of numbers; for this would be giving up one of the main advantages appertaining to the aſſailants, that of bringing a ſuperior force upon one point. They attack all along the Line to deceive the enemy, to keep him doubtful as to the main objects, and, of courſe, to prevent him reinforcing thoſe objects; part of theſe attacks ought to be made as feints, that the greater force may be ſpared to puſh the others with all the advantage of ſuperior numbers.

There ſhould, generally, be more than one real attack, if made in

in Column, for accident will often derange the beſt laid plan; and thoſe attacks meant chiefly to deceive, ſhould alſo be inſtructed to take advantage of the enemy, if they find him off his guard.

In forming for the attack, the light troops and cavalry are ſent forward, to hide, as far as poſſible, the formations from the enemy, and every artifice ſhould be uſed to prevent him from getting at your intentions.

The General in Chief has uſually formed his plan from prior obſervation or intelligence; but, as he approaches, if he ſees grounds for changes, he makes them.

The inſtant a plan is determined on, the more rapid the execution, conſiſtent with ſcience, the more certain the ſucceſs.

Attacks made in Column, have the advantage of rapid execution; the plan is no ſooner fixed than they can move forward to the attack.

Extenſion into Line requires delay, and whether made by deployment, or the open Column, the enemy will generally perceive its direction, and prepare accordingly.

If delay is the drawback of attacking in Line, attacks in Column have, at leaſt, a greater one; and that is, the enfilade and croſs fire, both of muſketry and cannon, to which they would be expoſed, were they to advance on the plain againſt regular troops, well ſupported by artillery.

Manifold are the inſtances in the late war where the ſtrongeſt intrenchments, lined with muſketry and cannon, have been pierced by the heads of Columns, and the defenders of theſe intrenchments every where routed, in ſpite of both enfilade and croſs fire. If manifold are the examples of ſuch a nature, it may reaſonably be argued, why ſhould not attacks in Column be made, and why not prove equally ſucceſsful againſt a Line on the open plain who are not defended by any intrenchments: the reaſons are, that thoſe who defend intrenchments are ſeldom ſo compactly formed as is a regular Line; that they are generally the few againſt the many; that they are not ſo well placed for availing themſelves of a counter movement on the flanks of the Columns, that, though it may not ſtrike at firſt, yet there is no ſituation where ſo terrible an enfilade and croſs fire can be opened as upon a plain; that in defiles, and in broken, high, and irregular ſituations, where intrenchments are generally met with, as commanding paſſes and roads, the unevenneſs of the ground greatly covers the aſſailants from the croſs fire and enfilade of the intrenchments; that their leaders naturally avail themſelves of ſuch circumſtances; that if repulſed, the country affords conſtant poſts to cover their retreat, nor can the fire of the enemy, who muſt purſue in Column, be very heavy; that cavalry cannot act; that, on the other hand, were Columns repulſed on a plain, by a regular Line, they would have no poſitions to cover their retreat; that from their formation they would have little or no fire to protect them, whilſt they would be ſubject to a heavy one from their advancing enemies; that they would be cut in upon by the Cavalry; and laſtly, that even where ſuch an attempt proved ſucceſsful, it muſt, probably, be a dear bought victory: till poſitive experience ſhall demonſtrate the contrary, where troops can act in Line, it is, in attacks as well as in defence, the ſafeſt of all formations; it is, as before obſerved, the one in which moſt fire can be thrown upon an enemy, and leaſt damage received from his.

The preceding details, from his Majeſty's Regulations, give Lines calculated for almoſt every exigency of attack or defence.

The nature of the ground will ſeldom admit of a whole army acting in Line, a part may be advancing on one point in Line whilſt another aſſails the enemy in Column, and the ſucceſs of ſuch attacks in Column, ſometimes become the ſignal for the Line to advance.

In a battle, we frequently find the ſame party acting both on the offenſive and defenſive; if the aſſailants have carried a point of conſequence, they are frequently vigorouſly attacked by the other in the hope of regaining what is loſt; who become, for the time, the aſſailants, whilſt in another part of the action they are thinking of nothing but defence.

In all attacks, whether made in Line or Column, turning or taking the enemy in flank, at the ſame time that he is engaged in front, is the main object; if, from the nature of his poſition, this cannot be made out in Line, Column muſt be reſorted to.

An army, whoſe numbers are nearly equal with its adverſary, can ſeldom venture a ſerious attack upon both flanks, from the riſk of ſeparating its efforts too much, and weakening their powers, but when ſuperiority of numbers admits, this may be done with much effect.

It is ſeldom that both flanks can be ſo ſecured but that one or other may be turned: if a Column turns an enemy's left, it ſhould lead with the right; and if it turns his right, it ſhould lead with the left, for this will keep the pivot flank towards him.

The flanks of armies are uſually covered by heights, woods, foreſts, ſwamps, lakes, rivers, intrenched villages, fortified towns, or other ſtrong holds: the object of the aſſailants is, to get poſſeſſion of the cover, and from thence to open an enfilade upon the enemy, in unifon with the fire in front, or to attack with the bayonet, if circumſtances require it, whilſt the reſidue of the Column extends upon his rear.

Nothing intimidates an enemy more, or induces him ſooner to relinquiſh his poſition, than a movement upon his rear, for he thus ſees himſelf in riſk, not merely of defeat, but utter deſtruction: the extenſion, however, in his rear ſhould not be made too rapidly, that the poſition gained upon his flank may be inſured; if he has the obſtinacy to maintain his ground, he may, by drawing aid from other parts of his Line, regain the poſition on his flank, and beat off the front attack; in which caſe, the Column in his rear, if too far advanced, would be deſtroyed.

It

It is ſeldom that the flank of a poſted army is open to an attack in Line, the heights, intrenched village, or whatever covers it, muſt, in ſuch caſe, be attacked in Column; and in all ſuch attacks, cloſe order, with the files looſened, or quarter diſtance, are preferable to open order, as having a greater impetus.

Unfortunately, writers on campaigns ſeldom go ſufficiently into the minutiæ; we are told, ſuch an army was attacked in front, whilſt another portion of the enemy fell upon its flank; this will do very well for the individual who wiſhes merely to gain information on the leading points of the campaign, and on the general cauſe of ſucceſs or diſcomfiture, but the executive or ſubordinate officer wiſhes to know more, he wants to aſcertain the nature of the ground; whether the attack was in Column or in Line, whether the Columns were at cloſe or open order, and the reaſons: more general information than this may ſatisfy the mind and make us imagine we have gained great profeſſional knowledge, but if reduced to the neceſſity of putting this knowledge in practice, we ſhould ſoon find that great things depend on ſmall ones, and that, from not knowing thoſe ſmall ones, we might as well know nothing.

Flank attacks almoſt conſtantly combine with Front ones,

On Attacks where Line cannot act.

If the poſition of an enemy cannot be aſſailed in Line, the Columns compoſing the front attack, as they approach it, take cloſe order, or quarter diſtance; they ought to be previouſly inſtructed at what particular parts of the enemy's poſition they are to attempt to penetrate, and how they are afterwards to co-operate with each other.

Artillery, if the nature of an attack will admit, are drawn out in the intermediate diſtances between the Columns, and keep a conſtant fire on the enemy, as long as it can be done with ſafety to their own people.

Columns, advancing to an attack, move on without firing, till in contact with the enemy.

If Columns, in advancing to an attack, have energy ſufficient to ſuſtain the fire of their opponents, the front company of each, ſo ſoon as it comes in contact with the enemy's poſition, gives a fire, and ruſhes forward with its bayonets, or does ſo without firing.

If, by deep intrenchments or other impediments, an enemy has rendered it impracticable for the leading companies of aſſailing Columns to penetrate his works, they, from neceſſity, attempt to extend themſelves to right and left, and commence a fire to keep down that of their opponents, whilſt the reſidue, ſtill moving on, endeavour to force their way in by means of ſhort ladders or other aids.

It is very evident that a ſtruggle on the entrenchments of an enemy cannot laſt long, from the deſtructive fire to which the aſſailants are expoſed, and if ſucceſs ſeems not attainable, the Commanding Officer orders the Column to face about and retire: or, perhaps, before this happens, the front companies, getting into confuſion, begin to crowd backwards along the flanks. If the object appears attainable, though the troops in front have become panic ſtruck and given way, freſh troops are brought up from the rear, and another eſſay made; but if no hopes of ſucceſs remain, poſitions on the flanks are ſeized to cover what is now the rear of the retiring Column, leſt the enemy ſhould ſally and attack in turn; theſe poſitions are evacuated and others taken as the Column recedes.

If, in an attack in Column, a repulſe has been general, the different diviſions move to the rear till they paſs the reſerve or ſecond Line, poſted at the commencement of the action, behind which they form or act as may be directed.

Though one or two Columns, in an attack, may be diſcomfited, if others are ſucceſsful, generally ſpeaking, the object will be gained; the inſtant any of them get within the enemy's works, they wheel their heads to right or left, as has before been arranged, and ſweep the intermediate ſpace between them and the next attack, thus facilitating the entrance of the other Columns.

If, in an attack, the previous arrangement is to wheel to the right, the Columns ought to lead with their right in front; if to the left, that flank ought to precede, for thus, when within the enemy's poſition, they will throw their pivot flanks on that ſide towards which he muſt from neceſſity retire.

Was the country immediately behind a poſition carried, in Column, to become open, and the enemy retiring in tolerable order and reinforced was again to ſhew himſelf in line of battle on the plain, the aſſailing Columns ought alſo to extend into Line before advancing, and the reſerve or ſecond Line would be ordered to move forward.

So ſoon as it is aſcertained that an enemy is completely driven from his poſition and in full retreat, meaſures are taken to turn the advantage to the beſt account, by falling upon ſome of the retiring Columns: part of the conquerors aſſail their rear, and thus excite delay, whilſt the reſidue, penetrating by other routes, endeavour to cut off the retreat of thoſe that are moſt expoſed.

If a retiring Column is aſſailed in the rear, and finds that the enemy has, by another route, gained a ſtrong poſition in its front, cutting or interſecting its Line of retreat, the ſituation of this column is evidently deſperate, and to ſurrender, or to be totally defeated and diſperſed is the natural conſequence; it is in this way that we are chiefly to account for the multitude of priſoners which ſometimes fall into the hands of the victor.

On Attacks in the Open Plain.

As the ſurface of Europe, in all probability, is gradually becoming more incloſed and interſected, by the induſtry of its inhabitants, attacks in war muſt be gradually verging from Line into Column; in this view of the

matter, though late events no way confirm it, invaſion ought to be turning more difficult, and empire, as to foreign enemies, more ſtable.

In this iſland the movements and evolutions of Lines could be but very circumſcribed; we are not, however, to ſuppoſe, that Lines can only move on a ſurface reſembling a parade: Lines, in their advance, often meet woods, encloſures, broken grounds, villages, and other impediments; ſo that, while part is advancing in Line, other portions are obliged to file to the front: or the companies before which the ground is moſt paſſable, keeping on a ſteady pace in union with the general Line, the other companies of their battalions form rapidly in cloſe Column behind them, and when the difficulty is paſt, again extend into Line during the march.

When columns extend into Line againſt an enemy poſted on the plain, every means is fallen on, as before obſerved, to prevent him from diſcovering the plan of operations, by throwing the light troops and cavalry in front.

Though deployments are uſually made under the fire of cannon, the Columns extend into Line before they are liable to ſuffer much from the enfilade of the enemy's artillery, or an attack during the evolution.

When one Line advances upon another, the fire of artillery from the poſted one is inceſſant, and that of the other occaſional; at about one hundred and fifty yards, round ſhot is changed for grape, and the muſketry begins.

At what diſtance the advancing body ought to halt to uſe its muſketry, or whether it is wiſe to halt at all, are points which muſt depend on circumſtances: that the advance of a Line, after halting to uſe its muſketry, cannot be ſo regular as the former, is very evident; but, notwithſtanding this drawback, it is, perhaps, generally prudent to do ſo at the diſtance of eighty or a hundred yards, for the fire of the enemy will otherwiſe become very deadly on a nearer approach.

If an advancing Line cannot ſupport the fire of its opponent, the ſecond Line may paſs through and renew the aſſault.

A mode of attack, adopted by the French during the late war, has been in ſhort lines, formed from the heads of Columns. The Columns are directed on given points; as they approach theſe points, the leading battalions throw themſelves into Line, whilſt the reſidue form ſupporting ones in their rear; or, if neceſſary, extend upon their flanks: it is evident that this mode of attack has rapid execution;—that ſhort lines are more manageable than long ones, and that few men are brought into fire at once, which every way calculates it for long and reiterated attacks; it ſeems very applicable to poſitions too much incloſed for long lines to act on, and, probably, was introduced to ſuit ſuch ſituations.

Though light troops very often cover an advancing line, or the front of a poſted one; yet, if left too long there, they will generally do more harm than good, for they are uniformly beat in, and in paſſing to the rear tend both to confuſe and intimidate the line of battle.

It ſeldom happens in armies of any magnitude that the whole force deſtined to act in front will be in a general Line, one portion will form and act upon the enemy in one direction, whilſt the reſidue advances on another; or, one portion will aſſail in Column, whilſt another acts in Line.

Every Commander will naturally wiſh to bring that part of his Line firſt into contact with the enemy's poſition where that poſition ſeems to be the weakeſt, and this will uſually be towards a flank, by turning which he hopes to fall upon his enemy in a double direction: to effect this purpoſe, attacks are uſually made in Line, oblique to the poſition of the enemy, or by parts of a Line on the principle of the direct Echellon: by theſe means the portion of force oppoſite the enemy's weak point is brought into the battle ſtrongly reinforced, whilſt the reſidue, where he is powerful, is thrown back or refuſed.

Though a refuſed wing does not mean to come into cloſe action, it ſhould maintain a threatening attitude, to keep the enemy in check, and prevent him, as far as poſſible, from ſtrongly reinforcing that part of his poſition on which the preſſure is to fall.

A Commander will naturally weaken his refuſed wing, that he may ſtrengthen his active one, hence the refuſed flank uſually becomes his weak point; this, however, ſhould be done with addreſs, and concealed as much as poſſible from the obſervation of the enemy.

That Tactic, under the guidance of a frivolous mind, often aſſumes the appearance of parade nonſenſe, is true; that ſuch a mind will often manœuvre away the ſubſtance and catch the ſhadow, is true; nay, that ignorance may manœuvre itſelf into danger inſtead of ſafety, is alſo true; but that Tactic, guided by energy and ability, ſhall produce ſuch conſequences, is to argue that the greater is the lever the leſs is the effect.

If the flank of a Line, in its advance, becomes expoſed on the plain, the cavalry and horſe artillery will naturally be thrown on that ſide as a ſupport.

It is no eaſy matter to inſtil into the minds of the defending body the ſame ardour and deciſion which pervades the aſſailants; hence it often follows, that to derive advantage from this impulſe of the mind, both ſides advance; and this would more frequently happen, did not the inferior body, on quitting its cover, find itſelf in immediate danger of being taken in flank by the ſuperior numbers of its opponents.

What applies to a defenſive poſition when aſſailed in Column, attaches, in a conſiderable degree, to one aſſailed in Line; in neither inſtance ſhould the defenſive body tamely wait the ſtorm, if any ſtratagem can be fallen on to confuſe the enemy in his advance, or counteract his movements: an able Officer, as before obſerved in this work, will ſtudy the vulnerable parts of his own poſition; if he finds, for inſtance, one of his flanks weaker than the other, he may naturally look to be attacked on that ſide, and thus may prepare, beforehand, how he ſhall bring ſtratagem to his aid, in counteracting it: in nothing does ability appear more conſpicuous, or apply to better purpoſes than in foreſeeing miſchief at a diſtance, and in taking ſuch meaſures as ſhall render it abortive.

If a Line is unable to ſtand the aſſault of its opponent, it falls back, and when ſtrongly preſſed, or thrown into confuſion, retires through the ſecond Line,

ſecond Line, which in turn, as before explained, retires through it; a retreat is thus effected, till ſome ſtrong poſition enables the retiring bodies to ſtand their ground, or till night, or other circumſtances, allow of their breaking into Column and moving off.

Whether a battle is fought in a cloſe or open ground, the face of Europe will ſeldom admit of a long retreat in Line, Column muſt therefore be reſorted to.

When Columns retire before an enemy, the bridges are broken down, the trees are felled acroſs the roads, and every obſtruction raiſed which can delay his progreſs; in this, as in every other inſtance, the defenſive body ſhould not be too paſſive; the more they give way, the bolder will be their adverſary; whenever opportunity offers, choice troops ſhould be ſtationed to fall upon the advanced parties of the aſſailants; but ſucceſs, if ſuch is the reſult, ſhould not be puſhed too far, for this will delay their friends, whilſt the conſtant preſſure forward of aid to the enemy, will ſoon enable him to re-aſſume the offenſive.

If a Column, retiring before an enemy, finds all endeavours to delay his progreſs abortive, and that another hoſtile Column threatens it in front, ſo as to deſtroy all hope of retreat in body, there appears no alternative but to abandon the artillery, and endeavour, by means of bye-roads, to carry off the troops.

When the operations of two hoſtile armies are detailed, it pretty nearly points out what occurs, be the forces ever ſo numerous.

When great States go to war, the means become multiplied; the line of defence more extenſive, the troops employed on it more numerous, and the military operations more complex; but the principles of action remain the ſame.

Some portions of every State, from the rugged and natural ſtrength of their ſurface, hold out little inducements to invaſion; whilſt others, more acceſſible, invite it: by ſuch conſiderations, and their political conſequence, if conquered, are the leading objects of campaigns determined on.

When a State traces out a line which it determines to defend, the exact boundary between the hoſtile countries is not always followed, but this line is choſen for its defenſive powers, ſuch as the banks of large rivers, fortified towns, defiles, mountains, foreſts, ſwamps; when theſe do not occur, diſtricts are ſometimes ſacrificed, that the line may paſs through others more defenſible.

In the commencement of a campaign, both ſides are pretty much concentrated; to which ever part of the Line the invader points, the defenders draw their forces, and turn its natural or artificial ſtrength to their account: the invading General, unwilling to attack them in their fortified and concentrated ſtate, ſpreads upon their flanks; thus extenſion begins, and we have afterwards, in various inſtances during the late war on the Continent, ſeen ſuch extenſion purſued, till neutral ground, or the impediments of nature, have ſet a boundary to its progreſs.

However numerous may be the armies or diviſions of troops which cover the frontier of a country, it is evident that this general line, or chain of force ought to have ſtrong poſitions to reſt its flanks on, and if turned, that it ſuffers nearly the ſame inconvenience, and finds a change of ſituation equally neceſſary with the ſingle army.

If a general chain of poſts is forced in the center, the ſacrifice of ground will be greater than when a flank falls back; but it is gained with greater riſk and retained with greater difficulty.

In attacks on a long and extenſive range of poſitions, the ſame principle guides as in the attack of the ſingle body, the object is to bring a powerful impetus on one or more points, and, if poſſible, to fall upon theſe points in a double direction, whilſt the other poſitions are threatened or amuſed, to prevent them from ſending aid.

When a line of defence is forced and falls back, fortified towns become uncovered; theſe, according to old uſage, were beſieged before a farther advance was attempted; during the late war, however, we have obſerved them left in the rear, with a force ſufficient to ſhut up their garriſons; and, deſtitute of proviſions, we have afterwards found them falling into the hands of the invader, without firing a ſhot.

When a line of defence is forced, new poſitions are taken by the defenders, which, in turn, are forced as before; ſo have we ſeen the tide of fortune flow forward on the ſide of the invaders, till ſome untoward circumſtance has rolled it back more rapidly than it advanced, or till a ceſſation of arms has put a ſtop to its farther progreſs.

When we find a line of defence, or cordon, ſkirting the banks of rivers, from their mouths to their ſource, paſſing over ridges of mountains, and embracing fortified towns in its paſſage, our ſenſes tell us, that, except where the Chief happens to be, the executive command, in battle, muſt, in a great meaſure, depend on the commanders under him.

If a portion of a long extended line or chain of poſitions is forced, both ſides will naturally, in the firſt inſtance, concentrate towards that point, the one to regain what is loſt, the other to keep what is gained, and thus matters of greater importance are frequently produced.

In general battles between great and powerful armies, particularly where the efforts of the component parts are much extended, one wing may be victorious whilſt the other is overthrown; in ſuch caſes, the army which retains the beſt poſition for renewing the battle, will, uſually in the ſequel, remain maſter of the field, though, in other reſpects, it may have ſuffered moſt.

On the Column of Route.

Generally ſpeaking, all diſtant marches are made in open column of companies.

When Columns, moving by different routes, are to act in concert, in calculating at what period each ought to reach its point of action, time ſhould always be allowed for unforeſeen accidents, and each individual leading a Column ſhould be provided with a good watch to regulate his motions.

No Column, at its outſet, ought to loſe time unneceſſarily, under the ſuppoſition of reaching its deſtination too ſoon; if its Commander, on approaching the object in view, finds himſelf before the time appointed, the Column may halt or move more ſlowly.

On the Second Line.

The object of the ſecond Line is, as a ſupport to the firſt; whatever may be the movements of the firſt Line, the ſecond ought always, unleſs ordered to the contrary, to gain the ſame relative poſition it had before ſuch movement commenced.

The ſecond line is not always in extended order, it may be drawn up in line, in battalion columns, or in columns of larger dimenſions; it is ſeldom ſo large as the firſt Line, and will naturally be ſtationed behind that part of the firſt Line where the preſs of the battle is likely to fall.

The ſecond Line ſometimes conſiſts ſolely of infantry, at other times partly of infantry and partly of cavalry.

The point where the new ſecond Line, or its prolongation, interſects the old, is a very material one in all changes made by a ſecond Line to correſpond with thoſe of a firſt.

The ſecond Line acts, in its movements, independent of the firſt, that is to ſay, it gains its new relative poſition in the way beſt adapted to the purpoſe, without any conſideration to the mode in which the firſt Line effects its change.

As the ſecond Line acts under cover of the firſt, the ſimpleſt and moſt expeditious mode of making its changes, in general, is in detached Battalion Columns, regulated by a given diviſion of the Line.

If a firſt Line changes on a fixed point, the movement of the correſponding point in the ſecond Line regulates the new relative poſition of ſuch ſecond Line; to find where this correſponding point is to reſt, we are informed in the Regulations, that if a circle is deſcribed from a point A of a firſt Line A B with a radius equal to the diſtance betwixt the two lines, then its correſponding point A in the ſecond Line, will be always in the circumference of the circle at ſuch place as the ſecond Line becomes a tangent to the circle.

The Regulations inform us, (in Section 208.) that if two individuals ſeparated from each other about a hundred paces, ſet out from different points of the firſt Line, and pace the given diſtance between the Lines, they will form a baſe, the prolongation of which determines the point of interſection, as well as the parallel direction of the new ſecond Line. The moment the new firſt Line is marked out, theſe individuals may take their departure from the given points on it; ſo that the two Lines can make their changes at one and the ſame inſtant: in the ſame way, by pacing perpendicularly to the rear of the new direction, can the correſponding point in the new ſecond Line to the fixed diviſion, on which the firſt makes its change, be aſcertained. This mode of diſcovering it, if not equal to the one above alluded to, in mathematical accuracy, is at leaſt eaſier in practical application.

On the Counter Movement.

There is no movement that can be made, which may not, if ſeen in time, be counteracted by another; the art lies in knowing the remedy.

Central changes of the Line ſeem beſt calculated for counter-movements; they are two motions at the ſame inſtant, tending to the ſame point, of courſe more rapid than any other.

If a wing is threatened, a central change not only removes from danger the wing that is menaced, but brings forward the other on the refuſed or weak flank of the enemy.

It is ſeldom that attacks are made in parallel line, the uſual object is, to refuſe or retire one wing, and attack with the other, ſtrongly reinforced: hence any forward movement threatening the retired wing of the aſſailants, palſies and counteracts the efforts of their other.

If a poſition is gained upon a flank, combining with a front attack, there is no counteracting or remedying the evil but by regaining the poſition, or throwing back the wing; any new line that can be formed facing ſuch poſition will itſelf be taken in flank by the front attack.

If a movement is made to a flank, to turn an enemy, it need ſcarcely be obſerved, that a ſimilar movement, on his part, will preſerve his relative poſition, but he may, by this means be drawn from a ſtrong ground into a weak one, he will, therefore, of two evils chooſe the leaſt.

If an attack is foreſeen, and the covered or irregular ſurface of the country admits of ambuſcade, nothing will ſo powerfully counteract ſuch attack as falling ſuddenly upon the aſſailants in the act of advancing: ſuch a counter-movement, executed with alacrity, and followed up with vigour, will ſeldom fail of ſucceſs. Soldiers, like other men, are the children of habit, any ſudden or unlooked for danger will produce confuſion, when double the riſk, for which they are prepared, will be diſregarded, or met with fortitude; they are oftener conquered by ſurpriſe than by fear; or, if it is ſtill fear, we muſt conclude, that fear, excited by ſurpriſe, acts more forcibly on the mind than any other ſpecies of terror: whichever is the caſe, it ought to be the conſtant ſtudy of a Commander, by varying his attacks, to avail himſelf of this mental impulſe, whilſt it is, on the other hand, the duty of all officers to prepare their men for what is likely to happen, and, by ſhewing collection themſelves, to inſtil it into the minds of their ſoldiers.

On the Paſſage of Rivers.

Rivers, ſince the days of Alexander, have very generally proved the points of contention between hoſtile armies, and in no period more frequently than during the late war: they are ſometimes paſt by force, and ſometimes by ſtratagem.

It is not the difficulty of paſſing the water that renders the banks of rivers celebrated by battles: the hazard of croſſing in the face of an adverſary, the riſk of being attacked in the act of doing ſo, when part is on one ſide and part on the other, the danger of an aſſault before a poſition of defence can be gained on the oppoſite bank, and the diſaſtrous conſequences that would follow a defeat, are the cauſes which make the invader heſitate in the paſſage of rivers, and determine his opponent to meet him on their banks.

To whatever part the General on the offenſive points, the defenders draw their forces on the oppoſite ſide.

If a river is generally fordable, and the banks to be covered extenſive, it affords no great advantage to the defending body, for their opponent will not croſs where they may intrench themſelves.

If a river is only fordable at particular points, at ſuch points works ſhould be conſtructed, theſe works ſhould be open behind, and commanded by others more retired.

When the army on the offenſive approaches a river, and finds its adverſary in force on the oppoſite ſide, meaſures are fallen on to diſtract his attention; one part is threatened, then another, detachments are made by the one party, and watched by detachments from the other: whilſt this is doing, the aſſailants become fully acquainted with the difficulties they have to encounter, and in determining on the ſpot to croſs at, if bridges are to be erected, they will conſider where the ſtream is leaſt rapid, where the banks on the oppoſite ſide are eaſieſt aſcended; where a village, or other cover is to be met with on their own ſide to form batteries in, and none on that of the enemy, and where he will be leaſt able to take a ſtrong poſition, in caſe he makes his appearance.

If a river is only fordable at particular points, which are defended by works, and theſe again commanded by others more retired, an army had better truſt to the conſtruction of bridges, than venture on ſuch an attack: the points for erecting them being determined on, detachments move by night with the pontoons, ſeize the banks at theſe points, and while the pontooners are buſy in forming their bridges, others are employed in planting cannon and throwing up works, by the fire of which the enemy is to be kept from the oppoſite ſide. The army approaches and paſſes over in cloſe Columns, of ſuch breadth as the bridges will admit of. Should the enemy make his appearance, the troops croſs under the inceſſant fire of their own artillery, and begin to extend into Line the moment they are over. It is, perhaps, needleſs to ſay, that bridges are formed by rows of pontoons, on which planks are placed; it would require more than one row of theſe boats to conſtruct a bridge ſufficient to tranſport cannon or cavalry.

If a river is of ſuch breadth as to render it doubtful how far the fire from the one ſide can keep the enemy from approaching the other; or, if there are not ſufficient pontoons to form a bridge, in either of theſe caſes a poſition muſt be gained on the enemy's ſide before any thing farther can be attempted, and this is effected by ſtratagem. A village, or ſome other cover on the ſide of the enemy, which is ſlightly guarded, or, perhaps, neglected, is determined on as the point of attack; a variety of movements are made to perplex the enemy, to draw his attention from this quarter, and to produce a ſeparation of his forces: a detachment moves by night, paſſes over in pontoons, and ſeizes the poſition: whilſt thoſe who have croſſed are ſtrengthening the hold that is gained; the boats return for further aid, rafts, and every mode by which the artillery and additional aſſiſtance can be ferried over, are now uſed, and on the rapidity with which this is done, and the valour of thoſe who have paſt over, muſt depend whether the attempt ſucceeds or not; for the enemy will not only concentrate his forces towards the point attacked, but will preſs with all his might to regain the poſition. Should things go wrong, returning night, if they can hold out ſo long, opens the beſt proſpect of retreat; if, on the contrary, the ground is maintained, and the enemy is driven back, the reſidue of the army paſſes over.

If a river is broad in its ſtream, and the defenders can line the whole banks, it is evidently one of the moſt inſurmountable obſtacles an invading army can meet with; but, if the line to be defended is very extenſive, which is the uſual caſe, the invaders, whoſe numbers are ſuperior, will generally ſucceed by means of extenſion; even in this view, however, delay is gained, which is a great object for the defenders.

On Surpriſe.

The impulſe of the mind, called Surpriſe, is a powerful engine in the hands of ability: it ſhould be the conſtant ſtudy of military men how they ſhall impreſs it on the minds of their adverſaries.

Any thing new, ſudden or unexpected, excites ſurpriſe; every one who reflects at all, is ſenſible of this from his own feelings.

At no time is the mind ſo ſuſceptible of ſurpriſe or terror, as when ſuddenly awaked from ſleep. Night ſurpriſes will, therefore, excite greater conſternation than any other. Night attacks, however, have this drawback, that, if your approach is diſcovered, both parties fight in the dark, but the defenders know their ground, whilſt you do not.

All ambuſcades have ſurpriſe for their object.

Young troops, under the influence of ſurpriſe, can ſcarcely be puſhed with too much ardour: Veterans feel ſtrongly its effects, but require to be

be operated againſt with greater caution; they are more apt to recover their ſenſes, and if they rally, the heat of purſuit lays the victor very open to retaliation.

When we endeavour to fall upon an enemy by ſurpriſe, we ſhould attempt to aſſail him in that quarter which will excite the greateſt conſternation: an attack upon the rear of a Column will produce this in a ſtronger degree than on the front; and an attack upon its reverſe flank, in a much greater degree than one on the pivot ſide.

In laying an ambuſcade for an enemy, we may pretty accurately determine which will be his reverſe flank, by conſidering which we ſhould make ſo in his circumſtances.

Surpriſes are ſeldom effected when hoſtile bodies are near each other, for this impreſſes on their minds the neceſſity of precaution: they are uſually made out by long and diſtant marches: or by intricate, circuitous, and unſuſpected routes.

A very active and enterpriſing opponent will generally make his efforts from a diſtance.

Nothing diſtracts an enemy more than a ſurpriſe in a quarter, where, from the natural defences, he conſidered himſelf ſecure; for here he will uſually have weakened his force, to ſtrengthen other parts more expoſed.

On Mountainous, Incloſed, and Woody Countries.

All woody and hilly regions are very defenſible: hence Independence retiring before the graſp of Power, ever ſeeks her laſt retreat among woods and mountains.

It is a common ſaying, that the ſpirit uſually met with in mountaineers, owes its origin to the wild and lofty features of ſurrounding nature, which impreſs on the minds of their inhabitants free and independent ideas; perhaps we might, with more truth, in many inſtances, trace this ſpirit to the cunning and ſagacity of the animal man, who, walking forth among his woods and faſtneſſes, feels their ſtrength, thence becomes bold, and determines to act ſo: in either view, no opportunity that offers of attacking banditties in open ground, ſhould ever be loſt: when this cannot be made out, every exertion ſhould be uſed to turn their poſitions, which, if it produces no other good effect, will at leaſt oblige them to retire without reſiſtance: a mere attack in front will uſually be attended with a heavy loſs and little utility, for they will ſoon re-aſſume another poſition equally defenſible.

In foreſts and woody diſtricts, untutored courage produces more effect than on the open plain: in ſuch ſituations, war, in ſome degree, reverts to its original principles; man is more oppoſed to man, and mechanical power becomes of leſs avail.

In attacks, among cloſe mountainous countries, where line cannot act, the defenſive body is in extended order, that they may uſe their fire; but the aſſailants, from neceſſity, attack in column: the ſame principle, however, of falling on their enemy's flank or rear, by aſcending the hills, or through unexpected routes, ſtill prevails.

In mountainous regions, the knowledge of the country is of the utmoſt conſequence: without this, combination of effort is ſcarcely practicable.

In hilly regions, whether oppoſed to a diſciplined or irregular enemy, the effects of ſtratagem and ſurpriſe ſhould be conſtantly looked for, and guarded againſt, as far as poſſible.

When an army paſſes through foreſts or over a woody and thickly incloſed country, the cavalry, artillery, and heavy ſtores uſually march with the central Column, while ſtrong corps of infantry move upon the flanks, and turn ſuch works or entrenchments as the enemy may throw up to impede their progreſs.

In a military ſenſe, at leaſt, whilſt ſhe retains her ſuperiority at ſea, few countries derive leſs advantage from her incloſures than Great Britain: her climate, ſoil, and inſular form, muſt inſure her a vaſt ſuperiority of cavalry and tranſportable artillery, over any enemy that could land upon her coaſt, in which caſe, the excellence of her horſes, the valour and proweſs of their riders, the powerful trains of flying artillery ſhe might bring into the field, conjoined with an open ſurface to act on, would probably render her nearly as formidable in an unincloſed ſtate, as ſhe now is in an incloſed one: ſuppoſing this reaſoning to be juſt, if our incloſures increaſe our defenſive powers in one way, by aiding the efforts of our infantry; they leſſen them in another, by cramping the exertions of our cavalry.

In woody and mountainous countries, when the forces are numerous, however much may be the attempt to concentrate, ſtill great ſkill and foreſight become requiſite to produce union of exertion; for want of this, we have, in the narrative of the laſt war, ſeen various inſtances, where a General, by a ſudden and rapid movement, has fallen upon a portion of his advancing enemies, and by cutting off this portion from the others, before they could give it aid, has utterly overthrown the object of his opponents.

Were Columns to advance againſt a line of infantry, artillery, and cavalry, compactly formed in the open plain, they would do ſo with the certainty of a very heavy loſs, and with no great proſpect of ſucceſs: but far otherwiſe might be the caſe in mountainous or incloſed grounds, where the line of the defenders could not be ſo compactly formed; where aid could not ſo eaſily circulate from one part of their poſition to another; and where the aſcents, declivities, or incloſures would greatly ſkreen the advancing Columns from the effects of enfilade and croſs fire. In attacks, during the late war, the Column has been more generally applied than in former ones, and much has been atchieved by it; witneſs one inſtance in the confines of Genoa, where an Auſtrian Column pierced the poſition of the French army through the center, and by cutting off the one wing from the other, in a great degree annihilated the efforts of both: ſuch events as theſe, by opening new lights on the ſcience of war, and on the ſyſtem of conducting it, furniſh uſeful leſſons to the young aſpiring ſoldier.

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Though the defenders, whether occupying an open or incloſed poſition, are in extended order, that they may uſe their fire; yet this only applies to the portion of their force immediately oppoſed to the aſſault, the reſidue may form ſupporting lines in the rear, or draw up in column, or in any way that might beſt conduce to their general defence; and this muſt ever depend on the nature of the attack.

On the Military Character.

Animal courage, ſufficient for the common purpoſes of war, is ſo generally met with among mankind, that though an indiſpenſible requiſite in a military character, it can ſcarcely be called a qualification, at leaſt it is one of a very common deſcription.

Collection and a quick perception in danger, are great eſſentials: they may be acquired, to a conſiderable extent, from habit; but to poſſeſs them in a pre-eminent degree we muſt conjoin the gifts of nature with the effects of practice.

Paſſion and fear, in proportion to their influence, equally affect the energies of the mind; they unfit it for ſeizing an advantage, if an opportunity occurs, or of parrying an evil when one is impending.

We ſometimes do ſee a certain quickneſs of perception under the influence of paſſion; but the mind which poſſeſſes this quality in ſuch a ſituation would poſſeſs it in a much greater degree, if calm and unruffled.

To carry into battle the ſame collection that we have out of it, is ſcarcely within the verge of human nature; the nearer, however, we approach to this ſtate, the more we poſſeſs the power of our faculties, and the better we are qualified to command others.

Ardour is certainly neceſſary in the private ſoldier, and to inſtil it into him, it may alſo be neceſſary in the ſubordinate commander; but we ſhould not allow it to run away with our ſenſes.

In deciding on military objects, we ſhould conſtantly recollect that there is no riſk, however trifling, which ought not to be deemed raſhneſs, if undertaken without a purpoſe; and no danger, however great, within the verge of hope, that circumſtances may not juſtify; the man who expoſes his perſon to the fire of an enemy, without a public view, is a fool: the man that expoſes himſelf and his party to almoſt certain deſtruction, to anſwer a great political purpoſe, is a hero.

As in the common incidents of life, one falſe ſtep often leads into a train of evil: ſo one ill-judged meaſure in war, ſometimes decides the fate of armies and of empire. How well ought States to weigh the abilities of thoſe men in whoſe hands they place the power of doing ſo much miſchief.

The individual who has the ambition to covet the command of armies, and does not uſe his utmoſt endeavours to qualify himſelf for his profeſſion, fails in his duty to his country, trifles with the lives of others, and ill-deſerves the high eſtate to which he looks forward.

It is no eaſy matter to define what are the requiſites in the character of an able general: ſo various is the deſcription, that one ſhines in one capacity, one in another; few there are who combine all.

The Invader ſhould be bold, enterpriſing, decided, vigilant, prepared to run great riſks, but always combining theſe riſks with a proportionate object; delay and ruin he ſhould conſider as almoſt ſynonimous terms, rapid and deciſive meaſures, tending to excite conſternation and diſmay, ought to mark his character.

The defenſive General ſhould be cool, collected, full of ſtratagem, patient under diſaſter, not elated or led away by good fortune, ever ready to ſeize an advantage, equally ready to relinquiſh it, when the retention appears likely to turn to his prejudice.

Though application and practical knowledge will do much, yet innate talent is an indiſpenſible requiſite in the character of an able commander: the man poſſeſſing a ſtrong and vigorous mind, with the experience of one or two campaigns, will make a better general than another who, without ability, has been practically employed all his life.

On Diſcipline.

The ground work of all diſcipline is ſubordination.

To form either officers or men, they ſhould be accuſtomed to act in large bodies:—this mode of exerciſe opens the mind of the officer, ſhews him the combinations of his profeſſion, and renders the private manageable in the day of battle: if it is true that foreigners have a more intimate knowledge of the military art than we have, it ought, perhaps, rather to be attributed to this advantage which they have over us, than either to their ſuperior genius or application.

The more the various deſcriptions of troops, cavalry, infantry, and artillery are exerciſed together, the more they will become habituated to the movements of each other, and the greater will be the ſcope given for the genius of the officer to act upon.

On Fire Arms and their Purpoſes.

Though diſtant range, as a haraſſing circumſtance, may occaſionally be uſeful, yet cannon, till they open with grape, are not very deadly: in ſelecting battalion guns, a conſtant attention ſhould be paid to thoſe beſt calculated for near ſervice.

Among woods and incloſures, markſmen, or ſharp-ſhooters have much effect. Was this iſland to ſtudy the uſe of the rifle with the ſame induſtry and application that ſhe once did the bow, next to her wooden walls, ſhe could ſcarcely rear up a more formidable bulwark againſt foreign invaſion.

If muſquetry is to be uſed againſt cavalry, file firing commenced at ſome diſtance, with one rank kept in reſerve, is ſuppoſed to anſwer beſt: a

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ſcattered fire certainly appears to frighten cavalry more than any other, and if we can only ſtop the rider by terrifying his horſe, the object is gained.

The old mode of reſiſting cavalry, and indeed the one that many would uſe at this day, is to retain your charge as long as poſſible; this would anſwer very well againſt horſe who wiſhed to draw the fire of their enemies before they attempted to break through their line, but againſt cavalry who were determined to try at all hazards, it has a ſerious drawback: till very cloſe, there is no great certainty in the fire, and if retained till then there is not time to experience its full effects. Many a horſe who has received a mortal wound, is carried forward ſome diſtance by the mere vigour of the animal, and if he only comes upon the bayonets, his ſpecific gravity will do the reſt.

When muſketry is uſed againſt a line of infantry, his Majeſty's Regulations direct that each company, after the firſt round, ſhall fire platoons as faſt as it can, without attention to any other diviſion: this is a real practical idea, calculated to produce a heavy fire, and from its ſimplicity would, probably, inſure more regularity than any other ſyſtem that could be attempted.

It ſeems very doubtful whether infantry, unſupported by artillery, can reſiſt well-appointed cavalry on hard open ground. Cannon is the engine beſt adapted to oppoſe them; its round ſhot confuſes their ranks at a diſtance, and, as they approach, the fire becomes ſtill more deſtructive: in ſuch a criſis, the beſt infantry are often agitated: the ſix-pounder, however, feels no ſuch agitation, ſhe lies ſteady on her axis, and pours every grape ſhot put into her mouth horizontally forward.

Among modern improvements in the art of war, none ſeem more deſerving of attention than flying or horſe artillery; the celerity with which a weak point can thus be attacked or defended, muſt afford the greateſt advantage to an army which has a numerous and well appointed corps of this deſcription.

The leſs flying artillery are tied to regiments or diviſions the better: they ſhould be generally applicable to the whole: cavalry forms their proper eſcort, becauſe it alone can keep pace with the celerity of their movements. In defenſive poſitions the flying artillery ſhould be evidently kept in reſerve; the rapidity with which this force may be brought to enfilade advancing columns is one of the cauſes that render it ſo hazardous to attack in this formation on the open plain.

On the different Deſcriptions of Troops, as they apply to different Poſitions of Ground.

Military men are too apt to form their profeſſional opinions from the ſervice in which each has been ſpecifically employed. The artillery officer, who has ſwept down both horſe and foot, conſiders cannon as the great inſtrument of deciſion. The cavalry man, who has hewn to pieces whole battalions on the plain, thinks nothing can be done without horſe: whilſt the infantry officer, who has fought among woods and mountains, holds both the one and the other very cheap: the enlarged mind, however, knows that each deſcription of troops has its particular ſphere of action, and that they mutually combine with and aid each other.

According to the general nature of the ground in which a campaign is to be fought, ought an army to be conſtituted: if open and hard, the cavalry cannot be too much attended to: if incloſed and woody, it ſhould give way to ſtrong corps of rifle men and ſharp ſhooters. Infantry forms the ground work on all occaſions.

Artillery is applicable to all poſitions where cavalry can act, and to many where it cannot, ſuch as in fortreſſes, intrenchments, paſſes, defiles, and in the narrow approaches or roads which interſect low ſwampy regions.

As moſt countries have in their ſurface high and low, wet and dry, open and incloſed grounds, ſo armies are uſually formed of the various deſcriptions of troops, and in the arrangements of a battle, each is placed in that poſition for which it is particularly calculated, and where its exertions are likely to prove moſt ſerviceable to the body at large.

On Open Countries.

In an open hard country, a train of evils follows the army, which is greatly inferior to its opponent in cavalry; it will, generally ſpeaking, find its intelligence obſtructed, its ſupplies cut off, its victories rendered viſionary, and its defeats not to be repaired.

At the commencement of a campaign an officer ſhould ſtudy his own troops and thoſe of his opponents: if greatly ſuperior in cavalry, he ſhould endeavour to draw the war into the open and hard parts of the country: if on the contrary he is inferior in this particular, or that his infantry is raw and undiſciplined, whilſt that of his antagoniſt is mechanical and well organized, broken and irregular grounds, woods, incloſures, hills, ſwamps, and the like, will anſwer beſt.

If a commander, greatly inferior to his opponent in cavalry, is obliged to act in an open country, he can ſcarcely fortify himſelf too much with cannon: on the other hand, an army ſuperior in cavalry, ſhould not clog itſelf with heavy guns, but truſt to the celerity of its movements, and a train of horſe artillery.

When an army moves parallel to an enemy in an open country, it uſually proceeds in two open columns, one conſiſting of its firſt, and one of its ſecond Line, with their pivot flanks towards him.

When an army advances upon an enemy in an open country, the more columns it moves in, the leſs of courſe will be their depth, and the more rapid will be the formation to the front.

On Enfilade, and Flank Attacks, or Turning.

The military heads which have been ſelected to frame reflections on, are ſuch as are moſt likely to lead the mind into a juſt way of reaſoning on profeſſional ſubjects in general; among theſe, none will be found more applicable to this purpoſe than enfilade and flank attacks.

The fire uſed by the aſſailants in a flank attack muſt produce enfilade: flank attacks and enfilade are, therefore, ſynonimous terms, in ſo far as relates to fire.

Of enfilade every one has a pretty juſt idea: it is a deſtructive ſweeping fire: it is to ſoldiers what raking is to ſeamen; it is to either, one of the greateſt evils that can befal them, and in avoiding it on the one hand whilſt he turns it on his adverſary, conſiſts one of the greateſt arts of an able commander.

The more we conſider enfilade and flank attacks, or turning an enemy, the more we ſhall find that their effects pervade the whole military ſcience, and form the main ſprings of moſt military movements: it is to obtain theſe advantages that wings are thrown forward by the one party, and to prevent their being obtained that wings are thrown back by the other: it is to obtain theſe advantages that attacks uſually commence towards a flank: it is to obtain theſe advantages that ſo many artifices are uſed, either by means of circuitous routes or other deceits, to fall upon an enemy's flank during the battle; and it is to avoid ſuch miſchief that both parties, but more particularly the poſted one, ſhews ſuch ſolicitude in the arrangement of its flanks, as ſhall render this as difficult or impracticable as poſſible.

The body which ſucceeds in turning or taking in flank its adverſary, uſually carries with it the fortune of the day; hiſtory produces ſo many inſtances of this, that it is uſeleſs to mention any; but if one is wiſhed for, we need only go back to the battle of Novi, or to moſt of the great actions fought during the late war.

It has before been remarked, that the flanks of a line are its weak points, it has alſo been obſerved, that a poſition, forming an angle ſalient,* or projecting towards an enemy, is likewiſe a weak point, and it becomes weaker and weaker in proportion as it is more and more ſuſceptible of enfilade, by being more acute: an angle rentrant,† or projecting from an enemy, if the flanks and rear are ſecure, acts in the oppoſite ratio, for one part of the poſition defends the other. An enemy that attacks any portion of a poſition, ſo conſtituted, except its flanks or rear, muſt himſelf be more or leſs ſubject to enfilade: fleets, in the defence of narrow ſtraights or guts, uſually draw up in a creſcent or ſemicircle,‡ with the concave towards the enemy, which is exactly ſimilar in principle, as well as effect, to the angle projecting from the enemy, and if the flanks and rear are ſo covered as not to be attacked, a more formidable poſition can ſcarcely be occupied on ſea or land; this, however, applies rather to ſhipping than to ſoldiers, for the flanks, which are the weak points, are thrown forward; conſequently, more expoſed, and it is ſeldom poſſible to find ſuch cover for them aſhore, as that one or other cannot be aſſaulted, or that the enemy, by turning them, cannot fall upon the rear.

Though enfilade is a great evil, yet it is one of thoſe which, from neceſſity, muſt often be ſubmitted to. Columns frequently attack under the moſt diſaſtrous enfilade, and ſhipping often lead end on to battle: but ſoldiers would never ſo aſſail their enemies if they could act in line, nor would ſhipping lead end on to battle if they could ſail broadſide foremoſt.

When two bodies meet, one ſubject, and one not ſubject to enfilade, it ever muſt be the intereſt of the body that is enfiladed to puſh on, and of the one not enfiladed to endeavour to ſtop it by an inceſſant fire.

If we can conceive a ſituation where it might not be the intereſt of the enfiladed body to puſh on, we muſt ſuppoſe two columns meeting in a narrow approach, where both are equally ſubject to enfilade; here the one which kept up the moſt inceſſant fire might, perhaps, come beſt off; but run a breaſt-work acroſs, ſo as to give cover to the one, and it inſtantly becomes the intereſt of the other to puſh forward: in this way may every military matter be reaſoned on, and he that thus reaſons will ſeldom commit any very palpable miſtakes.

The great art in all attacks is, to place the enemy under two fires, and the moſt effectual way of doing this is, to open one upon his front or rear, combining with another which ſhall enfilade his flank.

Sieges are conducted entirely on the principle of enfilade: redoubts are thrown up to cover the flanks of the parallels from the ſallies of the beſieged; the approaches are ſo arranged that the fire of the fortreſs ſhall not enfilade them; and that the beſieging general may turn upon his adverſary that evil which he thus avoids himſelf, he throws up batteries which ſweep the works attacked, and by his enfilade fire paves the way for the ſucceſs of his direct one.

Though this treatiſe is chiefly addreſſed to the junior part of the profeſſion, it has not been thought neceſſary to go into detail on the ſubordinate gradations, or to frame obſervations on the minutiæ of diſcipline, for theſe more properly belong to battalion practice, and have already been amply pointed out by many others: the intention of this work is to carry the mind on to the more advanced ſtages of the profeſſion, to ſhew how the diſcipline of the battalion combines with that of the brigade, how the evolutions of the brigade unite with thoſe of a general line, and how the whole apply to the purpoſes of war, whilſt the young mind practiſes theſe evolutions on a parade, and looks forward to ſee them reduced to actual reality, it ſeems natural that it ſhould feel in ſome degree inquiſitive as to their objects, their cauſes, and effects.

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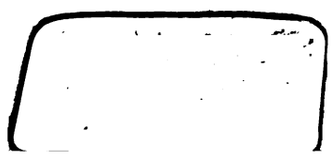
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